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10th March 2017

With a full week under my belt as the permanent Headteacher at THS I wanted to say a huge thank you to my staff, students, parents and members of the wider Tiverton community for all of the warm messages of support.

It has been truly overwhelming. My office and home look and smell like florist shops and I am struggling to find room on shelves for all of the cards.

I am excited about the future developments at THS and look forward to us working in partnership to make this school the best it has ever been.

Once again thank you.

Sammy Crook

NATIONAL CAREERS AND APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

This week was National Careers and Apprenticeship Week, and students from Year 7 to 11 had opportunities to take part and had visits from various Alumni through our former student network with Future First, local businesses, FE and Apprenticeship providers.



Paige Barrington visited classes to talk to students about her career path to A Level and work



Steve Lodge, owner of local company Oxygen Creative, visited English classes to talk about a career as a copywriter



Former student Andrew Dearing, who is a pilot in the RAF, talked to students who were interested in joining the forces, and visited STEM lessons to talk about the relevance of science and maths in his job

As well as attending our Apprenticeship Fair, which was also supported by Stenner Engineering, Bicton and Petroc Colleges, Daryl Wills from the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) visited resistant materials lessons to talk about Apprenticeship opportunities. Former student Harriet Greatrex worked with geography teachers for the day in classes and Alumnus Rob Hayward, who runs his own creative media company, created videos with students in art. Year 7 students spent the day playing 'Career Bingo' with teachers talking about their previous jobs and students marked them off, while learning about the skills required to do different careers. Everyone was wondering who the teacher was who made Bagels, which many were waiting on for their 'Full House'. Miss Bassham's students were the lucky ones who could cross that off when they went to her art class, much to their delight!

With tutor groups discussing careers and teachers showing video clips in classes of jobs related to their subject area, all students have had information this week which should help them start thinking about careers. As a school, this is an all year round process which isn't just focused on in one week, it is however a great opportunity for an intensive look at the possible futures for our students and encouraging them to aim high. With the government announcing a £500m investment in 15 new technical pathways to create the T-Level - the technical equivalent to A level - and the national and local skill deficit, apprenticeships are becoming more sought after and competitive, with entry requirements as rigorous as both A level and other academic courses. It is important that we continue to inform students of every opportunity available to them. If parents have any questions, please contact us and we will endeavour to put you in contact with the relevant external people to help your child make their career choices.

Thank you to everyone who supported the week.

Mandy Slevin, Development Officer

YEAR 11 EXAM PREPARATION REVISION

This week's Yr 11 exam preparation attendance is as follows:

153 students have attended at least one session this week which is **65%** of the Year 11 cohort.

The percentage of spotlight students attending 1 or more sessions is **82%**.

Highest attending students

Josh Goodwin	8 sessions
Lauren Bolt	6 sessions
Finlay Broadhead	6 sessions
Ewan Fowler	6 sessions
Tyler Hawkins	6 sessions
Charles Mogford	6 sessions
Emmalee Mulligan	6 sessions
Ruby Richards	6 sessions
Melissa Spicer	6 sessions

Well done everyone – keep it up!

REMEMBER High awareness + high action = exam success

YEAR 9 OPTIONS AND PARENTS' EVENING is on Tuesday 21st March. Online booking is now available <https://tiverton.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

If you require any assistance making your appointments, please contact a member of our admin team on 256655 ext 203 who will be able to assist you.

LONDON COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR

On Thursday 9th March, nine KS3 students were invited to take part in a singing workshop with the world renowned London Community Gospel Choir at the Great Hall in Exeter.

This group is one of the most in-demand Gospel groups in Europe and has recorded with the likes of Madonna, Kylie, Sir Paul McCartney and many other artists.

In the evening, we took an additional 35 students from years 7-10 to watch them in action and perform onstage with the Gospel Choir and their band in front of a highly energetic audience.



We would like to congratulate Shaina Stephenson for securing a work experience placement with the Exeter Crown & County Court. During this placement she will get the opportunity to meet Jurors and Judges' and also have the opportunity to observe Civil, County, Magistrates and Crown Courts. This is a very competitive process and we are very proud of Shaina for being successful.



Children's Literary Event

Tiverton Market | Saturday 29 April | 10am – 4pm

Children's Book Reading by local author Amy Sparkes, inflatable fun from Mad Mike's Entertainments, Face-painting, soft play, children's book quiz (with chocolate prizes) and plenty more! All our usual traders will be here and the Market cafe is open. Fancy Dress optional but welcomed! For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1786724274987796/>

Tiverton Concert Band

Musical Director - John Fitton

SPRING CONCERT

Saturday 18th March

7.30pm

Tiverton Community Arts Theatre
(at Tiverton High School)

Programme to include MARS from Holst's Planet Suite and 'The Force Awakens'

by John Williams

With solos, duets and trios by local pianists

Tickets £7.50 (reserved from Busy Bee)
Or £8 on the door, under 16s £2



OPTIONS FOR YEAR 8 STUDENTS

This term year 8 students have to decide which subjects they should study for GCSE

It can seem daunting to choose from your existing courses, but don't worry - it is quite a straightforward process. The following explains the process and offers help and advice on how to choose:

The process

1. You will continue to study:

Maths, English, French, P.E, Religious Studies and Science

2. You choose either

Geography or History

3. You then choose a Performance and Design option. You can choose from:

Performing Arts Technical Award, Art, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Resistant Materials, Drama, Dance, Textiles, Music or Computing

4. You then choose an open option, where you choose one from the following:

Performing Arts Technical Award, Art, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Resistant Materials, Drama, Dance, Textiles, Music, Geography, History or Computing

How do you decide which subjects to choose?

- Choose subjects you enjoy
- If you have some career ideas make sure you check out the qualifications required for this career. Check which A levels/BTECs are required for any university course or Higher Apprenticeship in this career. Once you know what A level/BTEC subjects are required, you can make sure you are choosing the right GCSEs
- Use U-explore to help with this research
- There are some subjects that are normally important to take if you are considering particular career areas:
 - Any artistic or design based careers – Take Art or Textiles or Resistant Materials
 - Any music based careers – Take the Music or Performing Arts Technical Award
 - If you think you might want to work with computers eventually, it will probably be useful to study Computing. This leads to taking Computer Science GCSE or CIDA (Certificate in Digital Applications) in year 10 and 11
- Make sure you and your parents attend the options evening on **Tuesday 28th March from 6.00-8.00.** This is your chance to find out everything you need to know about the subjects you are considering. Ask lots of questions such as:
 - What will I study in this subject?
 - How is this subject assessed? Is it just assessed on exams or coursework or a mixture of both?
 - If it is not a GCSE course what qualification will I get?
 - How different is the GCSE compared to what I have already learnt?
 - If it is a new subject what exactly does it involve?
- Ask if you are not sure of anything! Advice and support is available from your subject teachers, form tutor and careers staff at school.
- U-explore also has a post-14 options section that is very useful



Finally, some things to avoid doing:

- Don't choose subjects because your friends are doing them
- Don't choose or not choose subjects based on your experience of the teacher of that subject. You might have a different teacher for GCSE
- Don't miss the options evening