

Scarborough UTC News Flash Friday 23rd October 2020

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to you as we reach the Autumn half term. This half term was always going to be challenging for students and staff as we all made a return to full time education since lock down in March. I am pleased to report however that all have responded extremely well and it has been an exceptionally positive first half term of the year. I am particularly pleased with our new year 10 students who have settled very well and following feedback from Settling in Evening last night are enjoying their time at their new college.

The UTC experience is shaped by the range of opportunities provided by our unique curriculum and I am delighted that we have been able to offer the full curriculum so far this year including full practical activities and a wide range of enrichment activities. Students are certainly showing their appreciation through good, positive attitudes whilst taking part in these activities.

One of our main priorities this term has been attendance. After so much time off at the end of the last academic year it is essential that our students' attendance is at, or as close to, 100% as possible to ensure that lost learning can be caught up and that future learning is not affected. To this end I am delighted that despite the current situation with coronavirus our whole college attendance, including sixth form, sits at 95% for the half term. A fantastic achievement!

E safety

At Scarborough UTC much of our curriculum relies heavily on the use of PCs, laptops and associated Information Technology interfaces. In our specialist curriculum areas of engineering and computer science/cyber security we rely heavily on 21st century computing technology and therefore we have to have a culture which focuses on embracing the use of this modern technology to enhance learning.

As in many areas of our curriculum we focus heavily on preparing our students for the future world of work they will inhabit and therefore developing high level ICT skills is essential. Alongside the development of these skills also comes a responsibility to use this equipment and the Scarborough UTC network systems safely and responsibly.

We make our students aware of their responsibilities in regard to use of ICT through the Acceptable Use Agreement that you and they have all signed up to. Online safety is particularly important in ensuring that safety and level of responsibility. The internet is an amazing piece of technology and it provides a huge source of information and means of communication, however there are risks associated with its use. Students use of the internet whilst on the college premises is monitored and controlled, however, we all have a responsibility to ensure our children are kept safe online and therefore I urge you to ensure

you take measures to ensure your child uses the internet at home, both safely and responsibly.

The NSPCC provide excellent resources and support on their website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

They recommend a four step approach, TEAM, for supporting your child:

Talk about staying safe online

Explore their online world together

Agree rules about what's ok and what's not

Manage your family's settings and controls

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships."

Michael Jordan

"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful."

Mother Teresa

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

Henry Ford

Thank you for your support.

**Mr Kilgour
Principal**

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

News from Systems control this week! Our Year 12 students have been investigating power sources and various types of chemical and renewable sources of power, as well as discussing how places like Scarborough Hospital have systems to support all their electrical supply in the event of a power cut - keeping all their systems and medical equipment running is no small electrical task! Our Y13 students have been working extremely hard and conscientiously completing their Electrical and Electronic Design Unit 5 - awesome skills and effort E.D!

Our year 11 Systems Control Engineering students have had a busy session using test equipment on a completed PCB, to demonstrate that they understand how to carry out visual inspections, live and dead testing, including voltage, continuity, resistance - this was part of a pre-assessment task to support their independence when testing and evaluating their own circuits. Students produced a draft test plan with expected and actual results on. It was really rewarding to see the attention to detail and the students using their critical evaluation skills to assess the circuits - uncovering some faulty resistors along the way.

Independent study continues to be set, one hour per week - and it is pleasing that so many students are organising their time at home when not in College to build their skills and improve their knowledge retrieval ahead of the R113 Electronic Principles examination. Thank you for the positive responses we have had for students attending our after-school support sessions. It is excellent to see a mature approach and see students taking positive steps towards their future success.

Our Year 10 students continue to impress with their focus and superb attitude to learning. Students I want to congratulate for their awesome attainment with our interactive independent studies are Blade (100%) Ionee (97%) Xavier (94%) Vincent (94%) Adam (90%) Louie (81%) Kian (87%) Liam (77%). This weeks' "Mighty Effort Award" goes to Mikie - fantastic effort and attitude building skills using Kahoot!

Y10 have completed a half-termly skills review of their learning, and have started their construction of a switched parallel LED array circuit. It really is fantastic to have the electronics workshop busy with students soldering and working to build their skills - as we look forward to starting our DSE Employer Excellence Project once this practical build is completed after the break.

Enrichment continues to be a hive of activity on a Friday afternoon- a great way to end the week with students exploring further their interests in electronics and robotics. I'm so pleased that the robotics teams are now adding photos and video to our VEX Robotics Google Classroom stream - so that everyone involved can share in their sense of achievement. Have a fantastic half term break! Mr. Brown.

T&L@SUTC

The quality of teaching and learning at Scarborough UTC has been monitored by Directors of Subject recently through the use of student voice. A variety of methods, including face-to-face meetings, surveys and online questionnaires, have been used to find out what students think of a range of teaching and learning strategies within their subjects. This type of feedback is hugely valuable for teachers to enable us to shape and adapt our lesson content and curriculum. This ensures that students at Scarborough UTC enjoy their lessons and that we are meeting student needs through the opportunity for them to offer feedback and suggestions for improvement.

ASSESSMENT AND CURRICULUM

Behaviour and Safety

Thank you for the continued support to ensure face coverings and handwashing are routine considerations.

Students business dress, conduct and attendance remains excellent. An additional reminder that it is vital that each student continues to only use own personal equipment in line with the list on the website, this includes **pencil case, stationery, maths set, earphones and scientific calculator**.

Curriculum and Assessment

Year 10 and 12

Settling in Evening

Thank you for the feedback last Evening, when tutors made progress phone calls home to parents.

It is great to hear the positivity of students and parents and discuss the successes of settling in to a new term and the start of a new educational journey here at Scarborough UTC.

Year 11 and 13

This autumn we look forward to the first assessment window and an opportunity for progress discussions scheduled on the 3rd December. Assessment information will be updated and published on MCAS for review on the evening.

Key dates for the future assessment cycles are Year 11 and 13 week commencing – 2nd November 2020. All assessment information, Attendance, Professional values, behaviour and target information is published on the My Child at Schools app. This is a secure and personal portal that allows you to assess the progress of your child at any time.

SIXTH FORM

Year 12 reports are on My Child at School and it is fantastic to see how well they have transitioned to this next key stage in their education. I am delighted with the positive comments about their attitudes to learning and their independent study. Well done Year 12!

We have enjoyed speaking to many parents to discuss progress this week in our virtual settling in evening on Thursday.

We had attendance Pizzas this week for those who have 100% attendance and it was great to see that this involved nearly half of our sixth form. Attendance is so key to employment and preparing for the world of work.

In our student skills this week we looked at Stress Management and Mrs Wade had lots of her form using the stress apples techniques.

We are launching The Brilliant Club and The Social Mobility Programmes with our Year 12 students this term.

Our Year 13's have been working hard on their personal statements for Universities and it is important that they are resilient and draft and redraft these to get the wording correct for their chosen courses.

CAREERS

Our Pre-Apprenticeship students enjoyed a session with Firmac this week as part of their engineering qualification.

Students at Scarborough UTC have access to the careers platform Grofar. They can log on with their school user name and email. This gives access to lots of resources and careers advice.

Neil Forster our Careers Advisor has been with Year 11 students this week offering individual advice and careers guidance.

ETHOS

Our theme of the week has been Democracy and Mrs Fearnough has led assemblies on how important it is to use the right to vote and how important suffrage is. Students have learnt about how in Australia it is the law to vote and discussed what they think of the voting age in the UK and prisoners voting.

Our Student Leadership Team have now decided that due to COVID they will be in year group bubbles and our year 10's voted this week on the actions that they would like to take to support St. Catherine's Hospice.

Students of the week are:

Year 10 - Harry Mears and Mason Loughran

Year 11 - Connor Cowling and Libby Atkin

EAST YORKSHIRE SCHOOL BUS PICK-UP POINT

From Monday we have changed the pick-up point for students leaving college and getting the East Yorkshire bus towards Bridlington. This is to alleviate congestion on Weaponness Valley Road. Could I also ask that for parent/carers picking up their child at the end of the day that you are mindful of the local neighbours and wider community and that there is access to driveways at all times and that there is sufficient space for delivery drivers to get down the road. Thank you for your support in this matter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| Autumn half term: | Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October 2020 |
| Sixth Form Taster Day: | Thursday 26 th November 2020 |
| Year 11/13 Progress Evening: | Thursday 3 rd December 2020 |
| Professional development training day: | Friday 4 th December 2020 |
| Celebration Evening: | Thursday 17 th December 2020 |
| Christmas holiday: | Monday 21 st December 2020 to Friday 1 January 2021 |
| Professional development training day: | Monday 4 th January 2021 |

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| First day of spring term for students: | Tuesday 5 th January 2021 |
| Spring Half term: | Monday 15 th February 2021 to 19 th February 2021 |
| Easter holiday: | Monday 29 th March 2021 to Friday 9 th April 2021 |
| Professional development training day: | Monday 12 th April 2021 |
| First day of summer term for students: | Tuesday 13 th April 2021 |
| Bank holiday: | Monday 3 rd May 2021 |
| Summer Half term: | Monday 31 st May 2021 to Friday 4 th June 2021 |
| Term ends: | Friday 23 rd July 2021 |