

**Scarborough UTC News Flash
Friday 25th January 2019**

INTRODUCTION

Dear parent/carer

I looked carefully at the college calendar this week and one particular date stood out. The first day of external GCSE and A level examinations is Monday 13th May 2019. This means there are now only 12 college weeks until exams begin. This also means that students in both year 11 and 13 should be ensuring that they are bringing their A game to college every day.

There is no doubt that these exams will be a significant test of your son/daughter(s) stamina and resilience and they will need all the support you can give them. The key factors in supporting their success over the weeks to exams and during these exams are as follows:

Attendance – anything below 96.5% attendance will mean students are missing key learning that might be the difference in answering a key question in an exam, which in turn might be the difference in gaining the marks to achieve a grade 4 or a grade 5.

Organisation – it goes without saying that being on time to lessons ensures that no learning is missed and that having the correct equipment for learning ensures that there are no distractions and students' focus is on making progress in the lesson.

Attitude to learning – supporting your son/daughter to have a positive attitude towards their learning in the run up to and during their exams by:

- Helping them to find the time and space to revise effectively
- Ensuring that they have a balance of revision and social time.
- Producing a revision timetable together and ensuring they stick to it (make sure this is realistic).
- Providing them with an environment that ensures they are well rested and nourished.
- When they find the going gets tough help them with their motivation.

Thank you for your support.

Mr Kilgour

IN ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

This week our theme has been to remember those who were killed in the Holocaust for International Holocaust Memorial Day. Assemblies have been led by Mrs Fearnough for Year 10 and 11 sharing the story of her neighbour who was rescued by the Kindertransport programme in 1939 and brought to England for her safety. We were challenged as a college to look for hope in the darkness. On Friday 25th we were very privileged to have LC Alexander Bennett lead our Sixth Form assembly and he focused on the words of Pastor Niemöller

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“First they came for the socialist, and I did not speak out because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak up because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me”.

EXAM PREPERATION EVENING

Thank you to all parents who attended the Preparation for exam evening. Subject Revision guidance has been issued to all students. Preparation for the upcoming assessments is the key to success. In addition to interim assessments, formal pre public exams for Year 11, 13 and Resit Y12's will take place as scheduled from Wednesday 13th of February. These exams will run until Friday 22nd.

All exams are invigilated by external invigilators and will adhere strictly to exam codes of practice.

Students are reminded to be punctual and prepared with full business dress. We are looking forward to this opportunity to for students to demonstrate keen progress towards final exams in a few weeks' time.

The exam schedule will be issued on the week commencing 29th January 2019.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Our teachers at Scarborough UTC recently received a training session regarding challenge in lessons. Educational research reflects that there are three zones that we can guide students to work in during our lessons, a comfort zone, struggle zone and panic zone. If a task is not challenging enough if fits into the comfort zone, if a task is too challenging it fits into the panic zone. We want our teaching to fit into the 'healthy struggle' zone, where students are not finding the work too easy but are also not put off by it being too difficult for them; they embark in 'healthy struggle' to get to the right answer. Please do talk to your son or daughter about challenge in lessons and encourage them to talk to their teacher if they feel

that tasks they are undertaking are either too comfortable or causing them to panic. It is in the healthy struggle zone that students will make best progress.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

It's been a busy week in our engineering department with the student's developing their technical skills!

Student's have been working on a project for developing a fuel rail spacer for our partners at Plaxton. They're learning how to operate the manual lathes, and they are really being put to the test as the tolerance levels of accuracy are incredibly high! Work has also begun on another project which is seeing them produce a miniature version of Thor's hammer – while this is teaching them important skills that they'll need in industry it also gives them something to take home to show what they have learned to their family. We've also fired up the forge this week – with students beginning to make hanging baskets.

The progress our students are showing now in our 2nd term is really encouraging, and the standard of work right across the year groups, Year 10 in particular, is fantastic to see and wonderful to be able to demonstrate to our employer partners.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| Pre Public Examinations for year 11 and 13 begin | Thursday 14 th February 2019 |
| Open evening | Thursday 21 st February 2019 |
| Spring half term | 25 th February – 1 March 2019 |
| End of Spring Term | 12 th April 2019 |
| Easter holiday | 15 th April – 26 th April 2019 |
| INSET Day | Monday 29 th April 2019 |
| First Day of summer term for students | Tuesday 30 th April 2019 |
| First day of GCSE and A level examinations | Monday 13 th May 2019 |