

**Scarborough UTC News Flash
Friday 15th March 2019**

INTRODUCTION

Dear parent/carer

I am delighted to write to you this week to share the truly wonderful news about the success of our F1 in Schools teams in the National Finals of the competition, held at the Airbus plant in Broughton, Chester. Scarborough UTC had two teams competing following our success at the Yorkshire regional competition. Over two days of competition, both teams competed extremely well and demonstrated amazing professionalism, organisation and resilience during what is a challenging event. We are very proud of all our students who took part. They are the essence of what makes Scarborough UTC a special place to learn. What is especially remarkable is that in only the College's third year of competition, Team Avidity Racing was awarded Best Engineered Car and came a very close 2nd as we were named runners up for the overall competition. This fantastic achievement means that the team will now have to redesign their car in readiness for the World F1 in Schools Finals! The venue, which will be at an actual F1 race venue and held during an F1 race weekend, is still to be announced. This is a tremendous accolade for our college and is an excellent example of the professional values and employability skills, that we work so hard to develop in our students, being demonstrated in a national competition.

Well done to all.

There are now just 6 college weeks to the start of GCSE and A level examinations. It is therefore a vital time for our year 11 and 13 students to ensure that they are fully prepared for these examinations. It goes without saying that 100% attendance at college is an essential part of this preparation and therefore we urge you to ensure that your son/daughter attends college at all times during the run up to and through the examination period.

Revision time should now be a priority outside of college during evenings and weekends using the little and often guideline eg short 20 minute sessions every day. If your son/daughter has not yet produced a revision timetable and begun their revision then it is essential that they do this now. Remember that students in year 11 now have access to GCSE Pod and we encourage them to use this as part of their revision plan.

Coursework in engineering, for both year 11 and 13, is ongoing and students should be ensuring they are progressing this coursework, completing independent study and meeting deadlines. All students can access their coursework outside of college through Google Classroom.

Thank you for your support.

Mr L Kilgour

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

This Friday 8 year 10 pupils participated in the regional Maths Feast as part of 'maths month' on the Yorkshire coast. This is a fun educational challenge for Year 10 students which tests problem-solving and teamwork skills. Teams of four students tested their maths skills with our all-you-can-eat feast of problems!

There are several rounds requiring different skills and strategies for success. Each event takes between two and three hours. Students were tasked with problems such as 'the ages of a father and his teenage son add up to 66, the father and the son's age are reversed. How old are the father and the son?' Also 'how many different ways can the letters of BANANA be rearranged...' Our 2 teams won awards for team work and consistently scoring highly in all rounds. Great work!

Also this week year 10s have been studying climate change by looking at effects on the North York Moors. The national project is called Moorland Indicators of Climate Change Initiative (MICCI) and is taking place at different sites all over the country.

The students monitored weather conditions, looked at ground water samples and studied vegetation types and abundance, as well as looking for signs of wildlife. A healthy peatland is cold, wet, acidic and has good biodiversity. In the coming weeks the students will be using the data they gathered to draw a conclusion about how healthy the peatland is on the North York Moors.

Last but by no means least good luck to our sixth form students who are heading to Imperial College London this weekend to take part in the UK Space design Competition national finals after their success before Christmas in winning the regional heats – GOOD LUCK!

THINKING READING

Thinking Reading is a phonics based, coherent literacy strategy specifically designed to improve reading.

James Murphy, the course creator and Lorna Lafford delivered intensive training which enabled us to introduce the precision based programme to fifteen Year 10 students. They were identified by a "probe" test which involved reading fiction and non-fiction extracts with comprehension elements. We carefully recorded mistakes, omissions and additions and allocated a level to begin reading.

Scarborough has been identified as an Educational Opportunity Area with "social mobility cold spots" so money for resources is available from the Education Endowment Foundation. James supplied 44 books with incredibly detailed programmes for each one, including

vocabulary, phonemic and structural analysis. There are lots of appealing titles based on subjects ranging from football and boxing to sharks and the Black Death!

Lessons begin with 15 Known Words to increase student confidence, then there is a timed, 60 second fluency check where pupils aim for 120 words. We have seen great improvements in speed and accuracy.

After this we focus on 5 Acquisition Words which were identified by a 1 – 1000 word sheet, moving onto 1000 – 2000, until all words are correct. Students spell these words, mark them, then we move on to the reading.

The books are divided up into days for reading. Each day has a detailed programme including vocabulary, phonemes, structural analysis - such as compound words, affixes and verb endings so the pupils learn this terminology and can identify prefixes and suffixes etc. There are cards to accompany these. (We have also learned about sound-spelling correspondences such as approximants and fricatives!)

The pupils read the allotted day as staff tick correct words and record mistakes. Afterwards we go through and correct any of these with the student. They require over 97% accuracy to move onto the next day. In addition, there are comprehension questions which may be literal, or linked to reorganisation, inference or evaluation. When the book has been completed there is a “whole book read” with a timed element.

The students are thoroughly enjoying the programme. Most know their timetable and arrive at the door without the need to find them. The pupils continue until they complete the programme which develops their reading ability and age to the desired level. The last books are pitched at 15+ years. Feedback from students about this new approach so far has been fantastic, and we are already seeing the benefits.

REVISION

There are many revision resources that students can use to help them with their revision. We have just purchased GCSE POD and all students have access to this valuable resource. Just create an account with your child using their Scarborough UTC email address and it is ready to go.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Our teaching and learning zone, designed for use by teachers and support staff is now taking shape with the inclusion of a teaching and learning text library, displays showing the ‘Scarborough UTC Way’ of teaching and pedagogy and a teachers sharing board, where ideas and strategy can be viewed and discussed. At Scarborough UTC sharing good practice is at the forefront of our teaching and learning development and this space gives us the facility to do just that!

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

This week Year 11 received their PPE results report for their GCSE subjects and also the Spring 1 assessment grade for their Engineering Technical in Manufacture and also design.

ERASMUS EXCHANGE VISIT

As part of a European exchange program, we have a partnership agreement with an HTL College in the town of Ferlach in Austria.

As part of the exchange program, 10 students are visiting on the following schedule:

- Arrival at Scarborough UTC on Sunday 17th March 2019
- Departure 31st March 2019 (two weeks inclusive)

During the visit, each student will stay with our y11 and 12 host families and also attend college each day with our sixth form students. The visit will include cultural visits and trips to partner employers and additional recreational activities.

This exchange is funded by Erasmus (European Union) and the first return trip for our students will take place in Autumn 2019.

For more information see the link: <https://www.htl-ferlach.at>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank students and host families for the enthusiasm and support over the next two weeks. It is a great for our students to explore international relations.

COMIC RELIEF

Students today have been raising money for Comic Relief by bringing in donations, organising a cake sale and taking part in a staff vs students basketball match, coming out on top and judging by the injury list from members of staff who took part it looks like it was a hotly contested match! In total the students have raised an amazing £342.72 and this money is going to be donated to a Comic Relief charity that supports climate change, as students today have also had the chance to hold a protest in College raising awareness of climate change, holding some very interesting debates and creating posters that will be on display around college to highlight the next generation's concern for what is happening to our planet. Well done everybody who took part, you should all be very proud of yourselves!

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies this week were given by Mr Connell and our theme and thought of the week has been based around charity and helping others and Mr Connell has discussed how important Comic Relief is to helping those who are in need.

SIXTH FORM @ SCARBOROUGH UTC

Sixth Form students attended a production at York Theatre Royal of The Duchess of Malfi on Thursday . Thanks to Mrs Garret for organising this.

Sixth Form had a visit from the Regional Officer of the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme on Wednesday and all students in the sixth form have free registration for D of E here at Scarborough UTC. We will start preparation for our first Bronze expedition after Easter.

Students in Year 12 have been busy offering lesson and mentor support across the college. There has been excellent support including supporting the Year 10 Maths Challenge on Friday 15th March that you've read about above.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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