

**UTC**  
WARRINGTON

# Half Term Bulletin



April 2019

# Principal's Welcome



Firstly I would like to share some really positive feedback. Since introducing our new Disruption-Free Learning policy at the start of the term, we have seen significant improvements in behaviour, leading to a much improved general attitude to learning across the college. Since the new policy was introduced, we have seen a significant reduction in behaviour incidents, meaning that teachers have been able to teach much more content and students can learn more. As a staff team, we are delighted with the improvements we have seen from students, and are confident they are in a better position to now achieve their full academic potential.

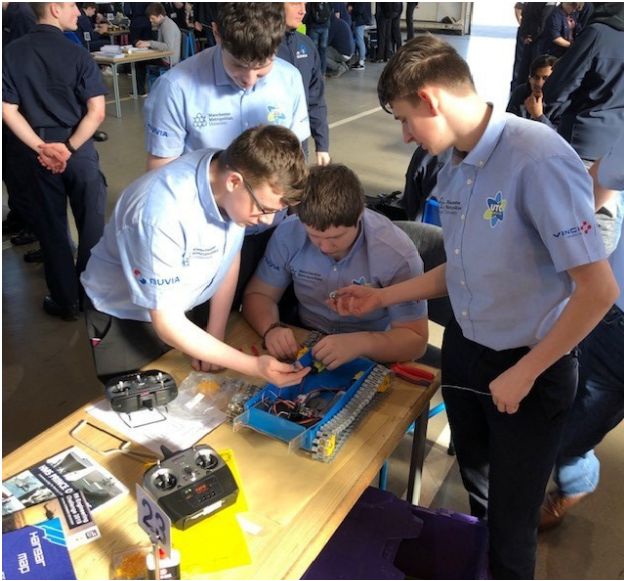
## **APPROACHING THE EXAMS WITH A CLEAR MIND AND CONFIDENCE IS CRUCIAL TO SECURING THE VERY BEST GRADES.**

This week has seen our wonderfully creative Art students tackle their Art practical exam, under the guise of Mrs Pattullo. The students have conducted themselves admirably, producing some outstanding pieces. We hope this good form continues now as we enter the business end of the academic year, with exam season upon us after the Easter holidays. In order to support students with their exam preparation, various members of staff are providing revision classes and coursework completion/improvements sessions over the Easter holidays. Please check this bulletin for more information.

The remainder of the college will continue with a bespoke programme of personal and professional development. Year 10 and Year 12 will need to secure a two-week work placement to take place in July. Enrichment week will also run during the next term, which is a valuable opportunity for the students to develop themselves culturally and socially, to provide themselves with the experiences to stand out from the crowd in apprenticeship and university applications, alongside outstanding CVs.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support and wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing Easter break.

# Royal Navy Field Challenge



Four of our Year 10 students voluntarily took part in the Royal Navy's UTC Field Challenge earlier this term; Chris, Lewis, Jakub and Liam have given up their lunchtimes and worked after college to design, build and test a vehicle to use on land and in the water. They travelled to Portsmouth with Miss Culleton and Mr Beggs to compete with other engineers from UTCs across the UK. The team have demonstrated excellent teamwork and organisation skills by taking up this opportunity.

**THE ROYAL NAVY CHALLENGE IS AN ANNUAL  
EVENT RUN SPECIFICALLY FOR UTC COLLEGES.**

## Healthy Minds, Healthy Exams

Year 11 took part in a full day of wellbeing ahead of the summer exams which begin after the Easter break. Mr Varey created healthy recipe books for all students so that they can fuel their minds with the right foods and drinks, ensuring that they are in a healthy mindset for the exam season. Students had the opportunity to make their own smoothies as a demonstration of how fruit and vegetables can help stimulate the mind and encourage students to approach each exam with a healthy mind-set.



# Brand New Cyber Pathway



Our new Cyber pathway launched with the support of Sam Stephens from Wood PLC and Elizabeth Pinder from Fujitsu. They both spoke to our students and prospective applicants about their careers in cyber security and the need for emerging talent in the sector.

From September, alongside the specialist computing and computer science qualifications, students will also be able to complete Resilia - a specialist cyber security qualification.

**YEAR 11 STUDENTS CAN STILL JOIN THE SIXTH FORM. APPLY TO SECURE YOUR PLACE!**

## End of Term Celebrations

Well done to all of our Year 10 and Year 11 students who won awards in the end of term celebration assembly. We have seen some fantastic progress in our students, particularly as the exam season approaches. The latest awards are a testament to their hard work and dedication to their learning and future careers!



# Work Experience

As you will know, it is expected that all Year 10 and Year 12 will secure a work placement in July. UTC has a strong network of employers from the world of STEM and many will be offering work placements. Whilst we can support in guiding you in the right direction, employers tell us that they are far more impressed with students who put themselves out to contact their businesses directly and self-source a placement.

Work placements will take place on the following weeks: Monday 8th July - Friday 19th July. The employers will write reports at the end of the placements which will reflect on the work that each student has done, the skills they have shown, and whether they were punctual and organised etc. Therefore, it is a good idea for students to keep in regular contact with employers in the run up to work placements.

## **Connect Work Placement App**

Our work experience is organised with the help and cooperation of Changing Education. This organisation check all placements to ensure suitability on behalf of young people in work experience.

You will need to download the 'Connect Placement Manager' app which will allow students to secure work experience placements without the need for paper forms. Students will need their Unique Learner Number (ULN) which is available from their PAT tutor.

If you need any help with regards to work experience, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Hatherall.

# Year 10 Bridge Building Task



Year 10 worked with leaders from Atkins on a bridge building project earlier this term. The project day tested their research, design, teamwork and presentation skills by creating plans for a bridge to cross the River Mersey. These are excellent opportunities for our students to work directly with employers on specialist projects that have developed their employability, leadership and teambuilding skills!

# Route to Success

Our new branded bus is travelling around Warrington promoting the great work that the UTC does for young people in the town. Nikola and Ben in Year 10 are the faces of the college as it travels on a Warrington's Own Buses vehicle on routes around the borough! Keep an eye out and let us know if you spot the students on a route near you!



# Art Exam Congratulations

Well done to the Year 11 Art students who have completed their 10 hour GCSE Exam which is worth 60% of their final grade. The students have shown excellent resilience and a positive attitude toward their exam. Please keep up the positivity ahead of the exam season which begins after Easter,

# Revision Tools

## **Seneca Revision**

Visit <https://www.senecalearning.com/> and register for free! It is a fantastic tool that GCSE and A Level students can use to revise from. It is important to build knowledge and independent learning with the exam season fast approaching.

## **Science Kerboodle**

Year 10 and Year 11 students can use Kerboodle for Science to access resources, lessons and online textbooks for revision. Homework will be set for science on Kerboodle. Access details are as follows:

Username: lastnamefirstname (no gaps)

Password: lastnamefirstname (case sensitive, no gaps)

Institution Code: iiq4

## **Subject Specific Revision**

Students have been given specific resources from each subject which are available on Teams on Office 365. As well as this they have been given a revision pack as well as their exam timetables.

# Easter Revision Sessions

**Year 11 Engineering - Monday 8th April, 10am - 3pm**

**Year 11 Engineering - Tuesday 9th April, 10am - 3pm**

**Year 11 Engineering - Wednesday 10th April, 10am - 3pm**

**Science Revision - Wednesday 10th April 2019, 9am**

**English Revision - Thursday 11th April, 9am**

**ICT & Business Coursework - Thursday 11th April, 9am - 12.30pm**

**Physics - Thursday 11th April, 10am - 2pm**

**Geography - Wednesday 17th April, 10am - 1pm**

# National Apprenticeship Week

## Simian Site Visit

VA group of our Year 11 students were invited for a taster session with Simian - a scaffolding specialist organisation. Simian's team gave the pupils an introduction into scaffolding health and safety, followed by a tour of the 15,00 square foot Birchwood training facility. Speaking after the event, Simian's Donna Johnson said, "We're delighted to play our part in National Apprenticeship Week and providing an insight into the scaffolding apprenticeship pathway to the budding Scaffolders from UTC, will hopefully inspire one or two more youngsters to seek a career in scaffolding. We are currently looking to match would-be Apprentices with potential employers and this is just one of a number of initiatives we have, to achieve this."



## Cavendish Nuclear Apprentice Workshops

Year 10 students worked with apprentices from Cavendish Nuclear as part of their practical learning in Science.

## Stanley Engineered Fastenings FAQ

Female students from across the college had the opportunity to hear from Lauryn Baker, one of our former students, who has started an apprenticeship.

## Live Webinars

We worked with an organisation called Springpod to bring real-life experiences to the college environment. Students took part in live webinars with apprentices from companies including Jaguar Land Rover, NHS, and Atkins. Students could ask questions directly to the apprentices via the online portal. Another unique way of students interacting with the world of work.



## Wood PLC Apprenticeship Session

Year 13 students had the opportunity to engage with leaders from Wood PLC. Students gained an insight from Darren Argo, a graduate engineer, who will also be running a live engineering project with Year 12 during the summer term.





# Key Dates

**Tuesday 23rd April - College Reopens**

**Tuesday 23rd April - Y11/13 Reports Issued**

**Monday 13th May - Exams Begin**

**Friday 14th June - Final Year 11 Exam & Celebration Assembly**

**Friday 28th June - Year 11 Prom**

**Monday 1st July - Enrichment Week**

**Monday 8th July - Work Experience**

**Monday 15th July - Work Experience**