

**UTC**  
WARRINGTON

# Half Term Bulletin



May 2019

# Principal's Welcome



I would like to begin by congratulating Year 11, 13 and some of our Year 10 students who have started their public examinations. The feedback from invigilators and staff has been very positive and I am delighted that so many of our young people are approaching their exams with confidence and resilience. After the half term break, there are a few more weeks of examinations. Following this, Year 11 and 13 will leave us and begin their next step of their professional career - whether that be in an apprenticeship role, further education or heading to University. I am confident that our students will earn themselves a justifiable set of results in the summer.

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

There is much to look forward to during the next half term. Enrichment Week begins on 1st July, which is an excellent opportunity to enhance interpersonal skills, develop further aspects of the curriculum, and enjoy some different approaches to learning. Similarly, from 8th July, Year 10 and Year 12 students will take part in a Work Placement opportunity. From personal experience and from my time working in education, this is one of the most valuable parts of college life. They will allow students to step outside of their comfort zone, attend work on time, work with a new team, and be inspired to be work-ready.

I would also like to wish Mr Varey a sincere 'good luck' as he embarks on an extraordinary challenge, taking part in The Uganda Marathon during the half term. He is taking bags of footwear for the children in Uganda, whilst also raising money for PAPYRUS - a charity that helps prevent young suicides. Mr Varey is one of the most selfless people I have worked with and I know you will all wish him well with his latest ultra-adventure!

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

# Sports Leader Challenge



A group of Year 10 and Year 12 students took part in a Sports Leader Challenge earlier this term. The day involved working as a team to plan and deliver a golf activity to primary school children.

This type of activity allows our students to demonstrate their leadership, organisation and communication skills, along with boosting their CVs for future jobs and apprenticeships.

**SPORTS LEADER ACTIVITIES ALLOW YOUNG PEOPLE TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.**

# Year 11 Prom Celebration

The annual Year 11 UTC Warrington Prom takes place on Friday 28th June at The Village Hotel, 5.30pm - 10.30pm. This is a formal celebration of our students' achievements during their time with us. The prom is an opportunity for students and staff to celebrate following the completion of their public examinations and promises to be a very enjoyable evening. The cost of the prom is £30 per student and covers food and drinks. Payment for this can be made on ParentPay and there is now an option to make payment online.



# Stanley Engineering Visits



Throughout this term, we have worked closely with Stanley Engineered Fastenings to provide students from all year groups with an opportunity to tour their Woolston site and speak with apprentices and leaders.

For Year 12 students, the visit helped them to analyse how Stanley use Quality Management Systems to improve their Outputs and Safety in the factory.

**SITE VISITS ALLOW OUR STUDENTS TO GAIN A TRUE INSIGHT INTO THE WORLD OF WORK AND TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR COURSES.**

## Proud Letters

We are proud of each and every student at the UTC. Each year, we ask our teachers and staff to write a personal letter to Year 11 students before their first public examinations.

This year, our students received a personalised letter with inspiration, memories and positive messages to support our students through their exams. Our 'Proud Letter Assembly' celebrated two years of achievement and success for Year 11. We wish you all the very best of luck during the exams!



**THE FINAL YEAR 11 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS TAKES PLACE ON FRIDAY 14TH JUNE AT 11.30AM.**

# 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 your PAT Tutor or Mr Hatherall.

**Top Tip: Set up a LinkedIn account and network with business leaders from the companies you want to work with!**

# Mr Varey's Uganda Challenge

After conquering the summit of Kilimanjaro at the end of 2018, UTC Warrington's Assistant Principal for Personal Development, Joe Varey, will be travelling to Uganda at the end of May on another inspirational fundraising mission. Joe is taking part in this latest challenge to raise money for PYPYRUS - the national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide.

Accompanied by a huge bag of donated trainers, which will be distributed as part of the overall relief effort, Joe will be spending a total of 7 days in Uganda. Initially, spending his time supporting a voluntary project in Masaka, one of the largest towns in central Uganda, he will then join 3,000 runners taking part in the gruelling task of completing The Uganda Marathon on Saturday 1st June.



## Who are PYPYRUS?

Suicide is the biggest killer of young people under the 35 in the UK; every year over 1,600 young people take their own life. PYPYRUS is the national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide. Its HOPELineUK confidential helpline provides practical advice and support to young people with thoughts of suicide and those concerned about a young person who may have thoughts of suicide. HOPELineUK is staffed by trained professionals and offers a phone, text and email service. PYPYRUS also offers training, delivers regional outreach programmes, and campaigns and influences national policy.



# Cadet Exchange Visit



Two of our Year 12 cadets have been chosen to take part in a Cadet Exchange Programme that takes place in July this year. Kyle Appleton and Sam Woolland will travel to Lithuania later this year to take part in the exchange visit that includes outdoor team building and a range of military themed activities. The pair will work with other British and foreign cadets, as part of the Exercise Baltic Guard, aimed at engaging the UK and Baltic States.

# Duke of Edinburgh

A letter has been sent out to all Year 10 students and any cadets who wish to sign up. Parents can pay for the registration on Parent Pay which is £25. Information regarding the expeditions will follow. Once students are registered they will be given an E DofE log in where they can start uploading evidence for the 3 sections.



# Sixth Form Pathways

As part of our sixth form offer, we are delighted to offer the following complementary A Levels to our established BTEC courses: **A Level Maths, A Level Physics, A Level Geography, A Level Art & Design.**

Please speak to a member of staff, if you would like to add A Levels to your options choices for September.

# Well Done Year 10 & Year 11



Mrs Garrett says she is so proud of the English Literature students who were in college at 8am for a pre-exam meet up.

All of the students who have been sitting exams have demonstrated exemplary behaviour and an excellent attitude towards each examination. There are just a few weeks left after half term of exams, so please keep up the good work!

## Apprenticeship Employer Event

As we continue to grow our apprenticeship offer to local employers, UTCW is hosting an event to expand the programme to more employers within the STEM sector. We will be joined by Alan Poole, Head of Profession, EC&I at Wood PLC, Nicola Merriman, Operations Manager for the North West at NSAN and Chris Hatherall, Assistant Associate Principal (Employability) at UTC Warrington. They will be talking about the benefits of having a local training provider in Warrington and the success we've had with our first cohort of apprentices.





# 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.

# Notices

## **Maths**

Maths exams are on the Thursday and Tuesday for the weeks we come back. There will be drop down sessions provided on the Tuesday and Monday prior to the exams where we will look at individual gaps in learning, predicted questions and look at past paper questions and how to answer them.

Students should be practicing papers 2 and 3 from [www.mathsgenie.co.uk](http://www.mathsgenie.co.uk) or any other source they wish, concentrating on their calculator skills! A scientific Casio fx 85GT plus is the one we use in college if they do not already have one.

## **Lessons during Exam Season**

Normal lessons and drop-down revision sessions are ongoing during the exam season. These have been designed to put our students in a better position for their exams. All students are to arrive and leave at normal college times. Please see the attached student timetable for w/c 3rd June.

# UK Needs More Cyber Experts

New research has found that there has been a huge increase in the number of UK firms reporting cyber attacks and most businesses say they are unprepared for cyber breaches.

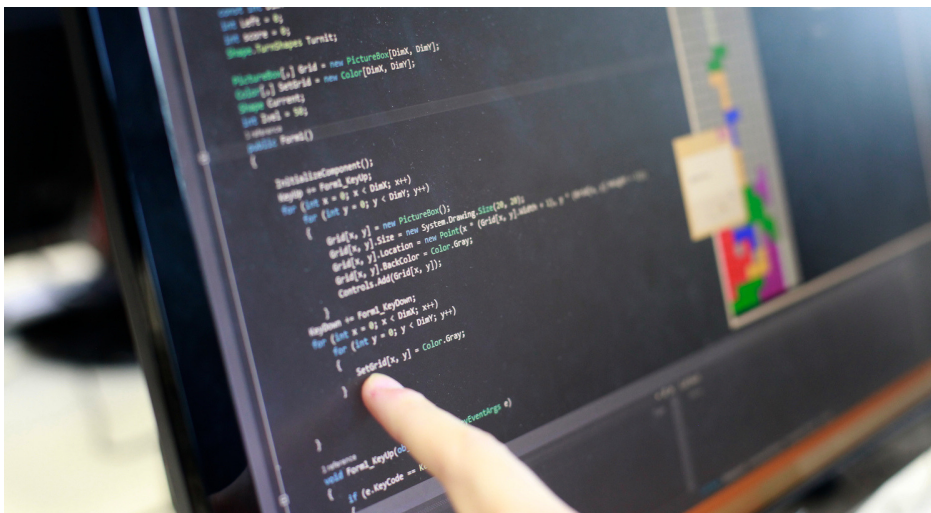
The insurer Hiscox found 55% of UK firms had face an attack in 2019, a jump of 40% compared to last year. Almost three quarters of firms were ranked as "novices" in terms of cyber readiness.

Gareth Wharton, head of Cyber at Hiscox says that some businesses may be spending less on cyber security because they feel they may not be targeted: "They may feel like they won't be targeted, as we tend to only read about large breaches in the press. If they incorrectly feel that they won't be targeted, they may be less likely to spend on cyber security."

At UTC Warrington, we are responding to business demand and developing the next wave of cyber security specialists to help combat the increase in cyber breaches.

We're the only college in Warrington to offer a tailored Cyber pathway for Year 12 students starting in September. Students will study a BTEC Level 3 in Computing which includes software development and programming.

Alongside a specialist course, students also have the opportunity to earn an industry-standard qualification – Resilia – which helps embed best practice cyber security skills to our learners



# Key Dates

**Monday 3rd June - College Reopens**

**Thursday 6th June - UTCW Summer Social**

For future students, including Year 11 into Year 12 Sixth Form students.

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

Parents are invited to attend this assembly from approx. 11am onwards.

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

5.30pm - 10.30pm, The Village Hotel

**Monday 1st July - Enrichment Week**

**Monday 8th July - Work Experience**

**Monday 15th July - Work Experience**

**Friday 19th July - College Closes**

**Thursday 16th August - A Level Results Day**

**Thursday 23rd August - GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment**

May 2019

[www.utcw.co.uk](http://www.utcw.co.uk)