

FEBRUARY 2020

UTC HALF TERM NEWS

WWW.UTCW.CO.UK | 01925 737067



Teamwork dominates half term

Lee Barber, Principal & Chief Executive

Since January, we have seen a tremendous emphasis on teamwork across all areas of the college and plenty of employer engagement.

As you will see from this newsletter and from our social media feeds, the opportunities to engage with external businesses is brilliant for our young people to develop themselves professionally and culturally, but also for those employers to take a pick of the best STEM talent within the local area.

By now, all Year 10 and Year 12 students should be securing their work placements for their designated weeks in the summer term. Being out in the workplace is a core part of the UTC programme and is a valuable way for our learners to challenge themselves in new situations.

For Year 11 and Year 13, the emphasis is firmly on the exam season which is fast approaching. There will be mock exams after the half term break and intervention sessions will continue. Please make the most of these final opportunities before the public examinations begin in a matter of weeks.





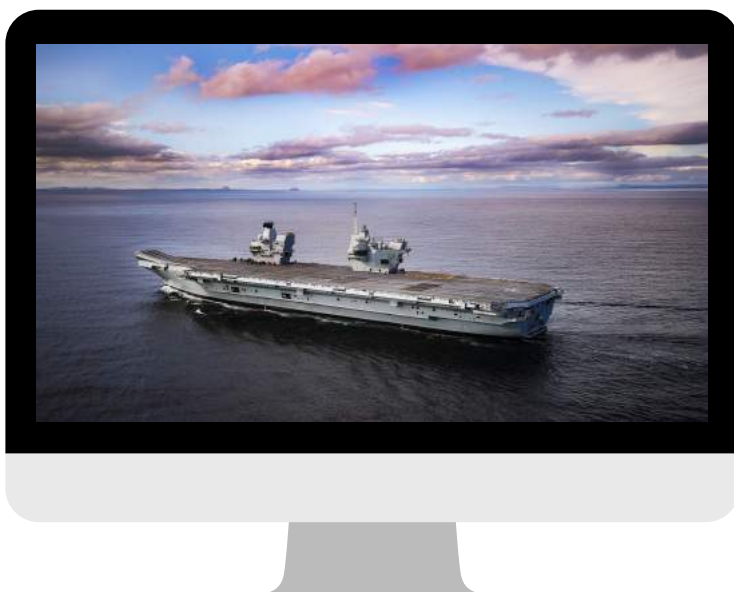
UTC Warrington has two teams of students entering the 2020 Royal Navy Challenge - a national UTC competition for students to use their engineering skills to design and build a small craft that will take part in a humanitarian aid task in March.

This term, both the Year 11 and Year 12 team shared their ideas with Harry Hales from the Royal Navy who offered guidance and support ahead of the competition next month. The teams will stay aboard HMS Sultan in Gosport, Hampshire with other UTC students.

Warship visit

Royal Navy engagement

We are delighted to invite a number of UTC students to visit HMS Prince of Wales - Britain's biggest warship - on Monday 2nd March. This has been organised by the Royal Navy and will include activities and presentations about STEM, alongside a guided tour of the aircraft carrier. More news will follow after the visit.



Work placement interviews

Employer engagement

Thank you to representatives from AECOM, one of our newer nuclear employer partners, who interviewed six of our Year 12 and 13 students for a summer work placement. They were impressed with the calibre of the individuals they met, commenting that they appeared confident and well prepared.

AECOM

Young Enterprise venture 'worldwide'...

Enrichment

Our Year 11 Young Enterprise team delivered presentations to the 'dragons den' at Cheshire Oaks earlier this week. During this half term, Ali, Sonny and Taron have been working with Chris Perkins and Gary Skentelbery to help sell advertising in the UTC weekly newsletter to local companies and businesses. The team will be working with Warrington Worldwide to develop new partnerships in the local area as part of the shared venture.



Year 10 students inspired

STEM

Year 10 students have been in the workshop developing their practical skills in engineering, whilst also growing their own bacteria and microbes from their mobile phones and personal items. Great ways for our students to contextualise their learning.



Sellafield application clinic

Apprenticeships

Thank you to John Patterson from Sellafield and one of UTCW's Trustees for supporting our Year 13 with their degree apprenticeship applications to Sellafield. The students heard about how to make their applications stand out, as well as information about what the programme entails if students are successful in securing a Sellafield apprenticeship.



Digital skills work experience

Sixth form

A new work experience pilot, delivered by Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership's (LEP), The Pledge Partnership, focused on science, technology, engineering, maths (STEM) and digital skills and careers.

Students from Year 12 had the opportunity to explore a variety of different sectors and learn about the variety of career paths open to them once they have completed their studies.

Several organisations delivered talks, activities, training and site tours, with students finishing the week with a workshop focused on developing their CV and participating in mock interviews with employers. This included local engineering design manufacturing company Driveworks and a cyber security centre in Salford.

UTC Warrington was involved in the pilot scheme; feedback was very positive and students developed essential skills in delivering presentations and pitches to businesses, digital skills awareness, teamwork and leadership, alongside visits to a number of partner organisations.



Trafford Centre regeneration visit

Employer engagement

In January, our Year 10 students visited The Trafford Centre for a talk by Peel Holdings to discuss the regeneration of Salford Quays when the centre was built. The centre is now the third largest shopping and leisure facility in the UK and has brought wealth and regeneration to Salford and the nearby quays.



Construction site visit

Employer engagement

Lane End, a specialist company that sources land and delivers high quality developments across the North West invited our Year 10 Built Environment students to visit Academy Street in Warrington town centre to see the real life work of site managers, bricklayers, architects and engineers of the future.





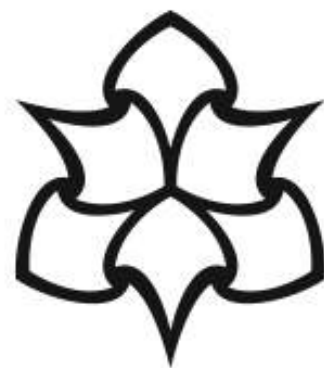
Nihad Mahmoud
Mechanical Engineering Degree

Nihad left the UTC in summer 2018 and was one of our first cohort of leavers.

He has gone on to enormous success by studying Mechanical Engineering and MMU, our partner university.

He is now in his second year and travels to Manchester to study, whilst also working part time in Warrington too.

Congratulations and good luck!



**Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

Where are they now?



Kane left UTCW in 2018 after studying BTEC Level 3 Engineering in 6th Form.

He took every opportunity to work with employers and develop himself professionally, with additional qualifications such as EPQ and PRINCE2.

Kane Delooze
Aeronautical Engineering Degree

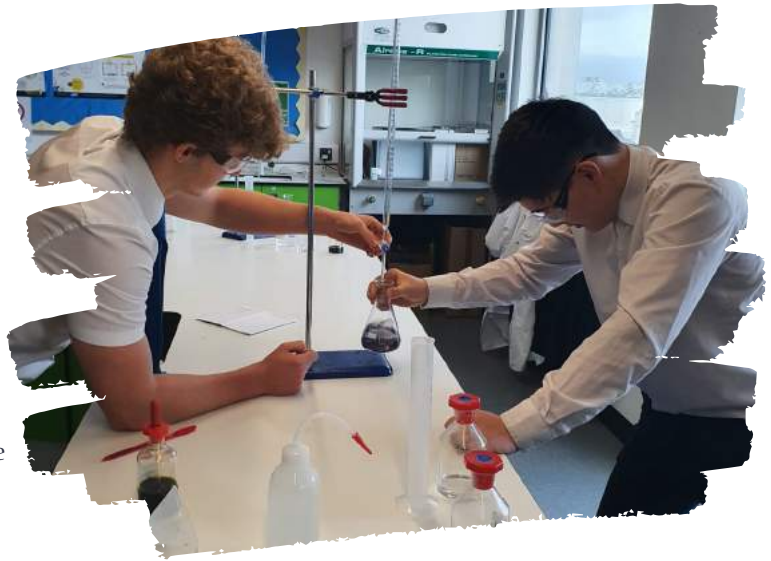
UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

Where are they now?

Destinations day for Year 11

Future options

In January, Year 11 took part in a destinations day to learn about their next steps at post-16. This included taster sessions in all of our 6th form subjects and a number of employability sessions. Applications for 6th form are still being received and we are sending offer letters via Parent Mail to those who have applied. Please return your acceptance slip to the college reception so that we can maintain our records.



Taster sessions for new students

Future students

It was great to meet future students and parents during our engineering taster session event. Feedback was very positive and we are looking forward to seeing you again. The next taster session event is cyber and maths on February 27th, 5.30pm.



Cadets craft new skills

Robotics

Our cadets have been working in teams to use the VEX Robotics equipment at the UTC. They have been working with Mr Varey to develop new engineering and technology skills at lunchtimes and after college. Great work!

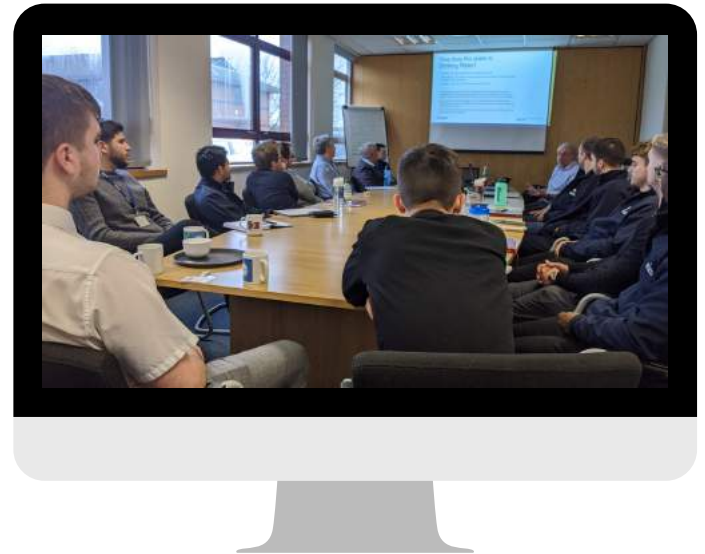


Success

Civil engineering partnership

Employer engagement

Thank you to NMCN who are an engineering company based in Birchwood for inviting a group of our Year 13 engineers to learn about water treatment and the issues around the water infrastructure. The company works largely in infrastructure but roles cover lots of general engineering principles. NMCN have invited our students back for future seminars and will be coming to UTCW to engage with the college over the coming weeks and months.



Warrington Apprenticeships & Jobs Fair

6pm – 9pm, Thursday 5th March 2020

The EngineRooms, Birchwood Park, WA3 6YN



Come along to the Warrington Apprenticeships & Jobs Fair and meet employers with career opportunities in a variety of sectors such as:

Accountancy, Business Admin, Construction, Customer Services, Design, Engineering, Health & Social Care, Hospitality & Catering, HR, IT & Communications, Logistics, Marketing and more.

Over 30 top North West employers looking to meet you to discuss their current vacancies.

Register for your place at this event now:

<https://warringtonappsfair2020.eventbrite.co.uk>

sponsored by



Apprenticeship recruitment lecture

Employer engagement

Thank you to NG Bailey for delivering a guest lecture to our students about apprenticeship recruitment in the engineering and civil engineering sector. The company is one of the UK's largest independent companies that work in engineering, rail, IT, civil engineering and facilities. For more information, please speak to Mr Hatherall.



Apprenticeship success in Warrington, thanks to University Technical College, says MP and employers

News

MORE students are securing apprenticeships in Warrington than ever before, according to the Department for Education (DfE). Latest figures from The House of Commons Library show more than 700,000 people across England got an apprenticeship in 2018/2019, with 1,700 of those being in Warrington.

The DfE also revealed 20,000 people started an apprenticeship in Warrington since 2010, helped by the town's University Technical College.



Andy Carter, MP for Warrington South, said: *"So many employers have told me how valuable apprenticeships are for recruiting new entrants." "The real winners are those entering the jobs market with the opportunity to learn and earn with a great employer." "UTC Warrington play a crucial role in linking employers and students and I've seen for myself the way lessons are tailored to make them relevant for future careers while providing a great all round experience."*

Since the UTC opened in 2016, the number of leavers entering high status apprenticeships has surpassed the national average; In 2019, the percentage of students leaving the UTC to enter these career opportunities was more than six times the national average.

Nicola Merriman, Operations Manager at NSAN, said that their partnership with the UTC is bringing a fantastic offer to young people and employers in the area.

She said: *"NSAN are delighted to be working with UTC Warrington and supporting our local members to access the fantastic facilities the UTC has to offer. Apprenticeships are critical to meeting the future skills needs of the nuclear industry, and it's great to see the regular opportunities UTC students are provided with to work with local nuclear companies to develop their knowledge and skills."*

Bike safety

Travelling to and from college

Cheshire Police would like to remind students across Warrington to be cautious and adhere to the following precautions when cycling to and from school:

- Students should avoid travelling home alone and stay with a group of friends;
- Avoid taking shortcuts or routes that make them vulnerable (back alleys, parks, unlit areas away from public view);
- Take a picture of the bike and keep a record of the frame number (usually located under the bottom bracket).



Professional appearances

Dress code

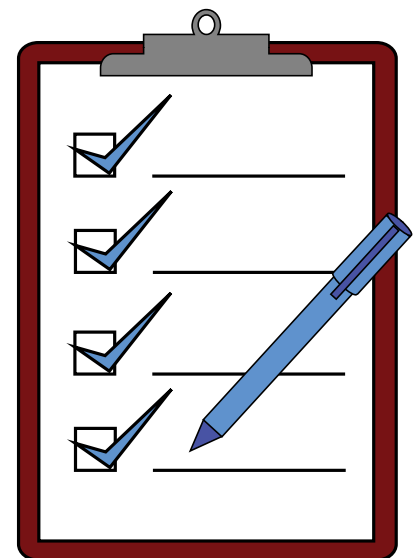
"Everyday is an interview". Ensure you are ready to make a brilliant first impression by looking smart and wearing the correct attire. This includes lanyards and ID cards which are important for student safety and safeguarding. Coats, jumpers and trainers must be removed when inside the college building.



Exam preparation

Intervention

Please take note of the intervention timetable which has been sent home in previous newsletters. Subject staff are continuing to put a mixture of intervention and revision sessions on at lunchtime and after college to help students achieve their best for the summer exams. It is important to make the most of these opportunities in the weeks leading to the exam season.



Tips for next term

Work experience

Year 10 and 12

A reminder that the dates for work experience are as follows:

- Year 10 - w/c Monday 18th May
- Year 12 Week 1 - w/c Monday 22nd June
- Year 12 Week 2 - w/c Monday 29th June

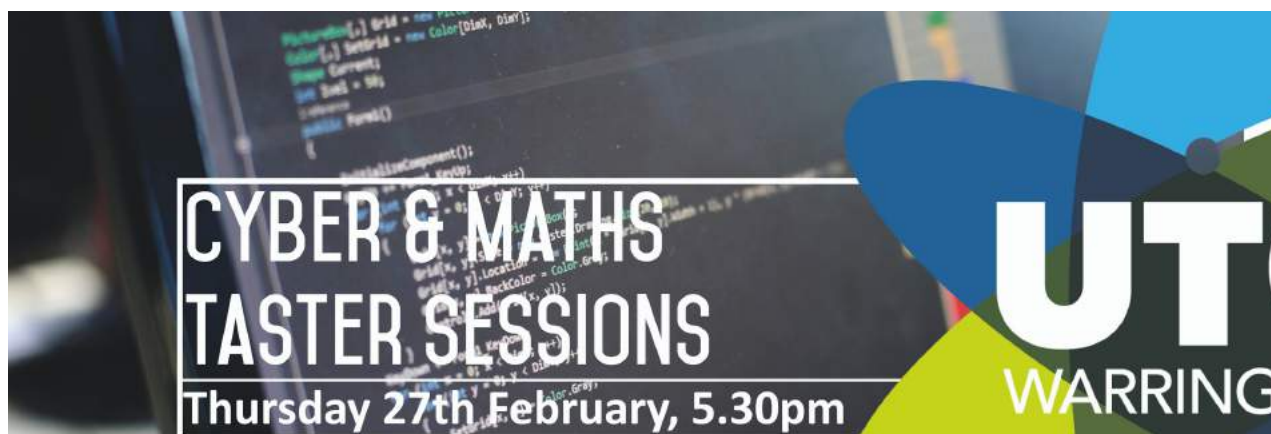
Please ensure placements are being secured and confirmed. Members of the UTC staff will be carrying out health and safety assessments before the placements take place. If you have any questions, please speak to Mr Hatherall. The deadline for returning paperwork is **30th April**.

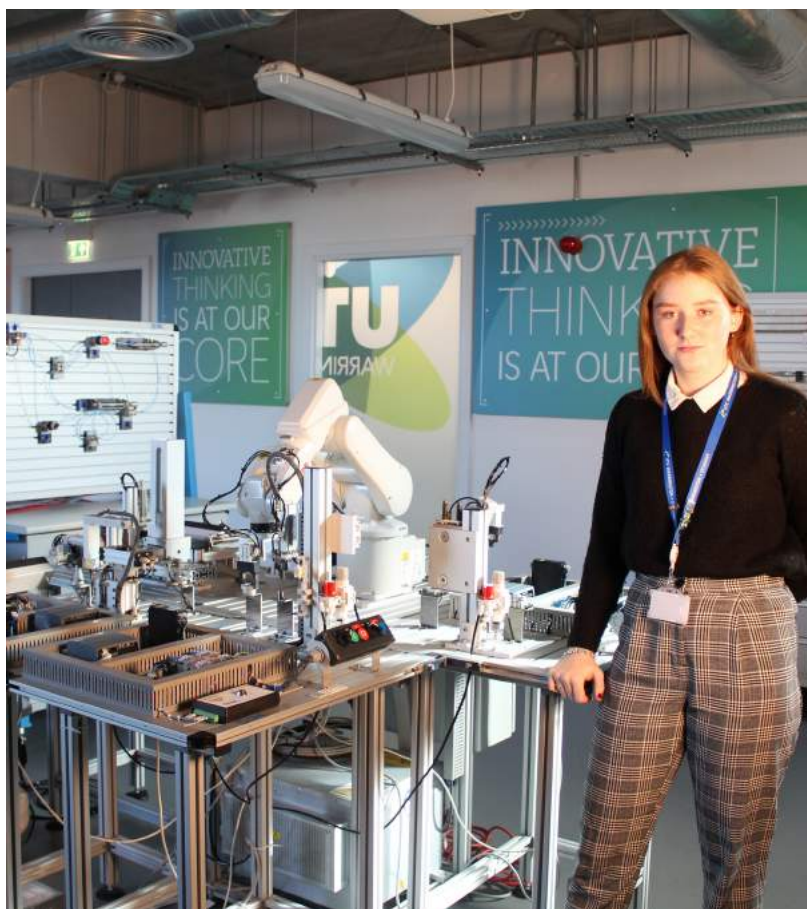


Taster sessions

Future & existing students

We have a number of taster sessions booked in the diary for the New Year. These are not just opportunities for future students to come and sample some of our lessons at UTCW, but also an opportunity for Year 11 students to taste some of our sixth form subjects in **engineering, civil engineering, cyber, maths and science**. Please share with your family and friends and register online at www.utcw.co.uk/events.





Key Dates

Mon 24th Feb - INSET Day

Tues 25th Feb - College Reopens

Get in touch?

Contact us

If you need to contact a member of staff, you can find their college email addresses on our website. Alternatively, you can call 01925 737067 and leave a message.

Email: parentenquiries@utcw.co.uk

Web: www.utcw.co.uk