



UTC
WARRINGTON

Newsletter

Friday 11th December 2020

A message from the Principal



“

We reach the end of another busy and exciting term at UTC Warrington. In spite of the many challenges this term has presented us with, as always, I have been so impressed by the resilience and positivity shown by our whole college community. I am extremely proud of our students who, even when faced with periods of self-isolation or remote learning, have continued to access their studies, participate in online work experience and employer engagement projects, complete mock examinations and organise charity events to support others. Our school motto of ‘Excellence and Kindness’ has never been more apparent. We look forward to an enjoyable end to the term with the range of Christmas activities outlined below.

”

Amanda Downing, Principal



Christmas – End of Term Arrangements



Early closure – Tuesday 15th December – 2pm:

College will close early on Tuesday 15th December at 2pm (following a Friday timetable). This is to allow a termly staff development training session.

Christmas Dinner:

A festive Christmas lunch will be available for students on the following days:

- Year 11 – Wednesday 16th December – 1:20pm
- Sixth form – Thursday 17th December – 12:20pm
- Year 10 – Thursday 17th December – 1:20pm

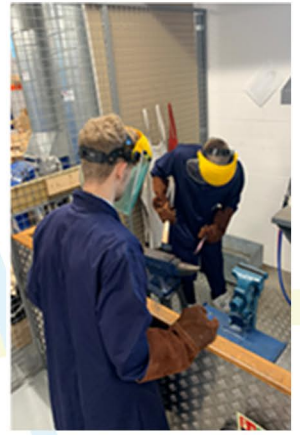


Last day of term – Finish at 12:20pm:

College will close early on Friday 18th December at 12:20pm. The day will follow an alternative timetable offering an early brunch for students, followed by a celebratory end-of-term assembly.

As always, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and wish you a restful, happy and safe Christmas break.

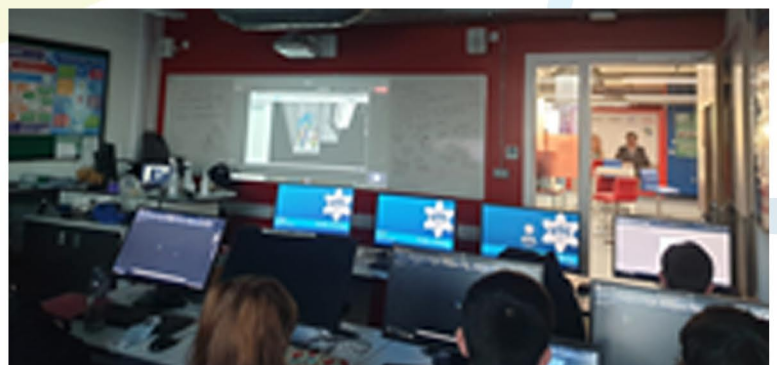
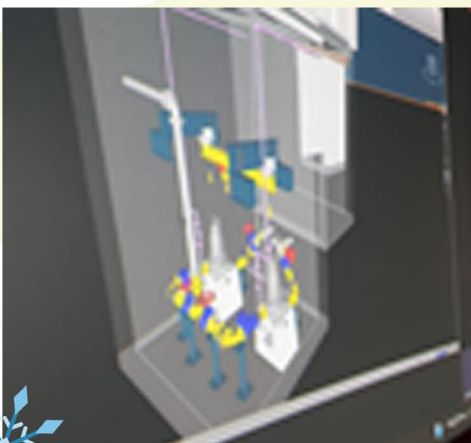
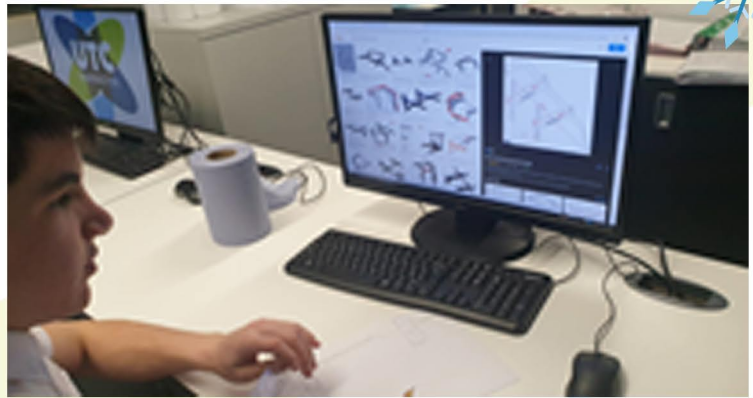
Engineering



Engineering learners are all continuing to study their BTEC courses whether this be Level 1, 2 or 3.

KS4 L1/2 students are studying Construction, focusing on AutoCAD drawings in Year 10 and their exam unit for Year 11 learners. Engineering is focusing on the engineering world, learning about the design process. Some are learning about workshop tools and equipment for Unit 7 Machining Techniques.

KS5 L3 students are learning a variety of different units including Maths, Physics, researching the use of products, manual drawing and CAD drawings for both Civil and Engineering courses, as well as BIM (Building Information Modelling). Learners in Year 12 are focusing on Unit 10 Section A, 3D Modelling using Fusion 360.



Geography



Year 10

This week in Geography, students have been evaluating the impact of transport improvements to the UK economy. We have examined the impact of HS2, the new container terminal at the Port of Liverpool and the proposed third runway at Heathrow. We have also studied the new Mersey Gateway Bridge – the largest infrastructure project outside of London.

As we come to the end of the unit “The Economic World”, all students should be preparing for their end-of-term assessment on Monday 14th December. Students have been set revision quizzes on Teams, plus have access to knowledge organisers and extra quiz questions. I am so proud of the hard work that all Year 10 have put in during this first term. After Christmas, we will begin our next world unit, “The Challenge of Natural Hazards”. We will be examining the impact of economic development on the ability to deal with hazards.

Year 11

As the mock exams have come to a close, we have resumed work on our curriculum. This week, Year 11 have been examining the ways in which we can ensure sustainable food supplies for the future. We have studied a local project in Liverpool – Farm Urban, who grow crops using Aquaponics underground.

We are excited to hopefully be working more closely with them in the New Year.

Watch this space!



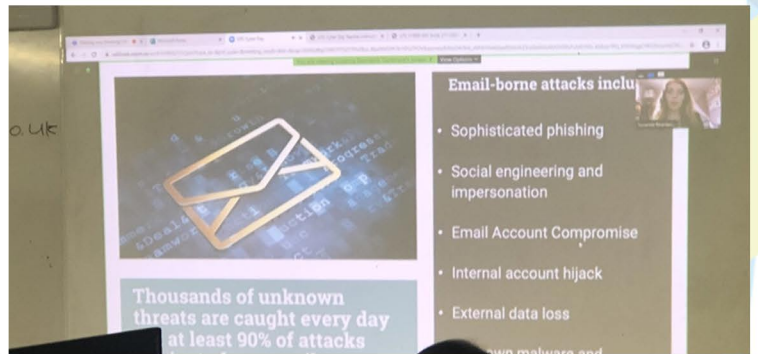
Computer Science



Key Stage 5: this half term, students in Key Stage 5 have managed to create their own virtual network using Raspberry Pi's using Palo Alto Firewalls, Servers and different switches.

Year 11 students have been preparing for their GCSE exams and have been learning about Networks. They have also have been finishing off their Programming project using Python to develop their solutions to the problem. Year 10s have been learning about Hardware and Software as well as number bases. The students have also experienced the use of www.immersivelabs.online to develop their Cyber Security skills through the UTC Cyber Day.

In ICT, Year 10s and 11s have both been working on their coursework this term, creating animations, digital images and websites in the process. Year 11s need to ensure, as well as having a well-deserved break over Christmas, that they revise for the R081 exam which is taking place on 11th January.



English

Big shout out to Lee Kendall in Year 10 for being a Reading Plus Master, having read 38,993 words in three weeks!

Mrs Brown's Homework Heroes: Daniel Howard (Y11), Eli Carr (Y10) and Amandeep Swalley (Y10).

Massive thanks to Year 11 for all their hard work in the English mock exams.

Maths

Well done to all Year 11 students in their Maths PPEs last week.

Homework is set on Active Learn for Year 11 to help with their knowledge gaps.

Big shout out to Tom Allen, Lee Kendall, Amelia Mockler, Ethan Fuller and Robbie Rathbone for excellent homework this half term. Year 10 homework is set weekly on Active learn.



Extra-Curricular/Enrichment

Virtual Work Experience for NMCN is continuing to run with Year 12 and 13 learners, who have been calculating the dimensions required for the water pipes to be fitted into the dry well. Learners meet every Monday at 3pm to have an online meeting with staff from NMCN and also as a group throughout the week, when they have study time to develop the project further. NMCN staff member John Marsh ran an AutoCAD 3D session with learners from 3pm until 4.30pm on Monday 7th December remotely. Photos of Monday's sessions have been sent on WhatsApp.

Additionally, two learners in Year 13 are continuing Virtual Work Experience with DATS, a local CAD company, via Teams meetings. The project involves redesigning the iconic Mini Cooper Car to make it more sustainable and modern via manual sketching techniques and Fusion 360. David Mallard is our link employer, he has attended the UTC during the pandemic to have face-to-face meetings with learners to discuss their progress and provide guidance and advice for their next session.

Design Slam Challenge

The Design Slam Challenge event on Thursday 26th November involved a combination of Year 12 and 13 learners studying Engineering and Art working together to design an autonomous car for the future. Learners were set a design brief at 9am from Jason Condliffe from MMU and Julian Turner from Westfield Technology Group. Learners were provided with a specification to design the car of the future and split up into seven teams. Both link employers were greatly impressed with teams 5 and 7. As a result, learners were set a challenge to begin 'Design Slam Challenge Stage 2', developing designs further as a whole class project, undertaking all requirements of the design process. The final design will be generated as a 3d model at MMU at The Fablab, and a prototype small scale model created by Westfield Technology Group. Additionally, learners will have the opportunity to have their whole class project advertised at Media City and on Social Media.



Network Rail Mock Assessment Day



This week Network Rail have been putting Sixth Form students through their paces in the form of a mock assessment day. The students participated in a range of group-based activities designed to bring the best out of them in a simulated recruitment environment. The team from Network Rail used mobile technology to interact with the students in real-time.



Students then had to perform in a one-to-one interview having their CVs and skills reviewed. It is hoped that, following this experience, many of the students will be confident enough to apply for forthcoming vacancies within the business.



Community Support

Smart Storage and UTC Warrington have continued their excellent relationship to provide Christmas gifts to families most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of their generosity, Christmas will be a little brighter for some of our students at the UTC.

Warrington Foodbank

Here at UTC Warrington, in previous years, we have accepted donations of non-perishable foods, which we have then distributed to those in need in the local community. Sadly, this year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, in order to avoid handling food items multiple times, we are asking that if people wish to donate they could do so via the Warrington Food Bank Directly. This can be done as a food donation or you can make a financial contribution. Please see the link below for more information.

<https://warrington.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>



Mental Health

Mental Health and E- Safety



Self-Care & Mental Health Guide

Samaritans have compiled a guide of useful tips and words of encouragement to help manage mental wellbeing. The guide is located on Instagram, is very visual and breaks down tips into simple and manageable steps.

<https://www.instagram.com/samaritanscharity/guide/our-guide-to-self-care>

Self-Care & Mental Health Videos

The NHS Every Mind Matters website contains videos for tips on exercise, sleep and how to take care of yourself on social media. It also contains links to help & support for groups of people who may be finding things particularly tough, or have additional needs.

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/youth-mental-health/>

PSHE

This term the Key Stage 4 students have enjoyed 2 drop down mornings where they have developed their knowledge on the risks of Knife Crime, Online Safety and Drugs and Alcohol. As well as this, they have also looked at Relationship and Sex Education, in particular how to develop healthy relationships.

STREAM project

After Christmas, we will be receiving a large quantity of equipment working in conjunction two other local colleges. This exciting project, which is sponsored by the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership, will help equip our students and members of the local community with the skills necessary to enter the world of work successfully. The equipment will include Body Cameras, hi-spec Laptops and Projection equipment so students and local community groups can work together with different organisations.



KEY DATES



Staff CPD Session – Early finish for students 2pm	
Tuesday 15 th December	Staff CPD
Wednesday 10 th February	Staff CPD
Wednesday 31 st March	Staff CPD
Thursday 27 th May	Staff CPD

Charity Events	
Friday 25 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need
Friday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12 th March	Sport Relief



KEY CONTACTS

Safeguarding	Jemma Chilton:	JChilton@UTCW.co.uk
Reporting Attendance	Paul Rigby:	Attendance@UTCW.co.uk
Pastoral Team	Andy Johnson:	AJohnson@UTCW.co.uk
SEND	Sam Lee:	SLee@UTCW.co.uk
Finance, Free School Meals & Parent Pay	Lindsey Devine:	LDevine@UTCW.co.uk

TERM DATES 2020/21



TERM

Autumn Half Term 1
Autumn Half Term 2
Spring Half Term 1
Spring Half Term 2*
Summer Half Term 1**
Inset day
Summer Half Term 2***

DATE OF OPENING

Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Monday 2nd November 2020
Monday 4th January 2021
Monday 22nd February 2021
Monday 12th April 2021
Friday 26th June
Monday 7th June 2021

DATE OF CLOSING

Friday 23rd October 2020
Friday 18th December 2020
Friday 12th February 2021
Thursday 1st April 2021
Friday 28th May 2021
Friday 9th July 2021





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