

# Ivybridge Community College

## Year 12 Weekly Bulletin

### Edition 5: Thursday, 7 May 2020



## COVID 19 Update

Hello again for another week. As proposals for school reopening abound in the media, at the risk of sounding like a broken record, at the time of writing, there is still no official update on when schools will reopen (and in what form), but it is looking to be no sooner than after the May half-term. You are currently in good company, though; three quarters of the world's school children live in countries where schools are currently closed. With no blueprint for the best way to manage their return, our government is currently engaged in a very difficult risk-balancing exercise, slowing the spread of the virus but mitigating the costs, among other things, to children's development and the economy. Rest assured that the College will be ready when we get the go-ahead, and we will do our very best to support anyone who has difficulties with this transition.



On another note, with St George's Day on 23 April sneaking by with little celebration in the media, I hope you take some time to reflect on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day this Friday, 8 May, it is important not to forget such moments in history when we are faced with other challenges.

## Weekly News Quiz

Luckily, if you are missing College and craving a bit of normality, the company that produces the weekly news quiz that we use in Tutor Block has teamed up with Socrative to deliver the quiz to you remotely.





DEVON YOUTH PARLIAMENT



## LOGO AND POSTER COMPETITION!

Get your creative talents recognised! Your design could be the face of our Climate Campaign-'Greener Devon', and you could receive some amazing environmental goodies! We would like you to design a logo and/or a poster. We will pick one overall logo as a winner, and one poster from EACH age group (0-6, 7-11, 12-15, 16-18)



**For the logo...**

- Must be a circular design
- Must include our campaign name, Greener Devon



**For the poster...**

- We're looking for a poster to raise awareness of the environment and of what a 'Greener Devon' looks like to you

**Please submit your entries to**  
**greenerdevon@gmail.com or post on**  
**Instagram, Twitter or Facebook with the**  
**hashtag #greenerdevoncomp by May 29th at**  
**midnight**

If you go to <https://b.socrative.com/login/student/> and enter the Room that I have cunningly named **SIXTHFORMQUIZ**, you can play along as usual without having to sign up to an account. Can't say fairer than that!

## Greener Devon Climate Campaign

And in other news, if you are passionate about the environment and want to express your creative side, check out the details of Devon Youth Parliament's logo and poster competition to the left.



## Wellbeing

This week, Mrs Ryder would like you to think about being kind to others, with the goal being to give as many compliments as you can. You could use some of the ones in the image below.

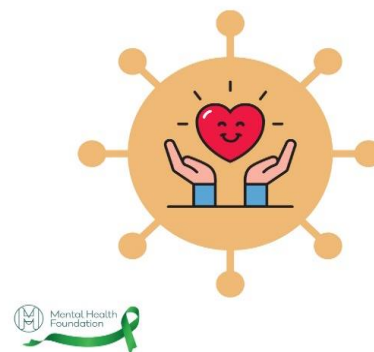


If you receive a compliment:

- Always say thank you; don't belittle the compliment by saying the likes of 'oh, this old thing' or 'it's nothing really!'
- Reply with a compliment – this shows that you are grateful, and this will lead to more compliments!
- Don't go into too much detail! You don't need to say, for instance, that something you are wearing was on sale or second hand etc. – just accept the compliment!



Kindness during the coronavirus outbreak



As ever, please also feel free to contact Mrs Street ([ssreet@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:ssreet@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)) or Ms Daniel ([kdaniel@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:kdaniel@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)) if you would like to discuss pastoral support available.

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## Home Learning

Hopefully you are in some sort of routine of working at home now, but don't worry if your home situation doesn't allow this – just try your best. Also, although you may be staying connected with your friends in a social sense, try to find a bit of time (if you aren't already doing so) to discuss the work you are doing and any difficulties that you are having. Remember, you would have had a lot of incidental conversations about work at College without even thinking about it, and it is easy to lose perspective when isolated from others, especially with regard to having a realistic picture of the amount and quality of learning that your friends are managing.

Again, if you are struggling, Thomas Frank has a video available [here](#) that gives tips for staying focused when working at home.

### **LRC Home delivery service**

I mentioned the College library book drop-off service last week (e-mail requests to Mrs Hull at [shull@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:shull@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)); this week, we have been contacted by Judy Snape from Ivybridge Library with the following message about their services:

I am writing on behalf of Ivybridge Library to tell you about some of the ways we can help you to support your students and their families during the current lockdown situation.

### **Our online resources**

We have a range of free resources that all library members can access online:

- Download and stream free eBooks, eAudioBooks and eMagazines, with more than 3,500 titles on [Overdrive](#) (eBooks and eAudiobooks), and 1,000 unlimited use eAudiobooks through [RB Digital Devon](#).
- A selection of eMagazines are available on [RB Digital Devon](#).
- A range of eAudiobooks via [BorrowBox](#).
- Online reference resources at [Devon Libraries](#) including AncestryUK, Oxford dictionaries and Naxos music.
- Fun online content and live streaming events via social media. Check out individual library Facebook pages for more information.

### **Ensuring all students and their families can access our online services**

All students and families that already have library membership at one of our public libraries will automatically be able to access these services. Students can be individually registered by teachers here on our [Devon Libraries website](#).

Many thanks for your continued support during this difficult time. We are very keen to help ensure that students and their families are able to continue developing their learning, read for pleasure and have access to as many helpful resources as possible. Please do get in touch if you think we can help further in any way.

Best wishes

Judy Snape  
**Library Supervisor**

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#### Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

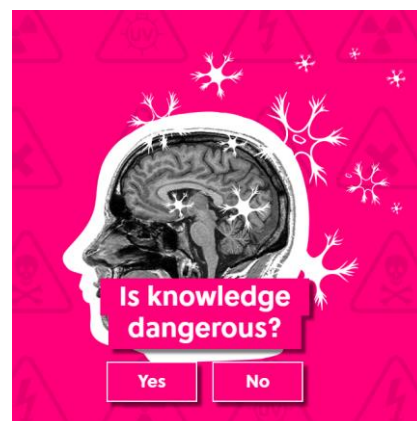
Thanks if you have replied to Ms Daniel expressing interest in taking an EPQ next academic year. If you are interested and haven't contacted her yet, please do so, so that we can timetable the course with the appropriate number of supervisors.

As I mentioned last week, the University of Bath has produced a MOOC through *FutureLearn*, called *How to succeed in your EPQ: The nuts and bolts of completing your Project* (<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/epq-success>). Ms Daniel asks that you complete this course before the end of the summer term if you are serious about taking the EPQ. It takes three weeks; you can either start now, or you can join the course on 11 May or 29 June (see details on the webpage), so you do not need to start this until after the Diagnostic Assessment week at the beginning of June.



#### Stretch yourself – Oxplore

I previously shared a number of suggestions for super-curricular activities that you could engage in to extend your studies beyond the remit of your Sixth Form syllabuses. Another resource popped into my inbox this week: *Oxplore*. This is an online resource produced by the University of Oxford, marketed by them as the 'Home of Big Questions'. It aims to engage students with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom, reflecting the kind of thinking undertaken by students at university, from areas such as Archaeology to Zoology. If your interest is piqued, try the video [here](#); if you're sold, go straight to the website [here](#).



UNIVERSITY OF  
PLYMOUTH

#### Free University of Plymouth webinars

Another excellent way of stretching yourself is being provided by the University of Plymouth through a series of upcoming webinars, the first being an A Level Geography session focusing on 'Changing Places: Rebranding Urban and Rural Areas' by Professor Richard Yarwood of the [School of Geography, Geology and Environmental Sciences](#). It will run as a talk, with opportunities to ask questions at the end. Professor Yarwood has delivered a similar talk at the College many times in the past.

*This talk focuses on the 'Changing Places' theme of the A-level curriculum. It examines the economic changes that have been affected urban and rural places over the past twenty years and, in particular, stresses the importance of re-branding in these transformations. Drawing on case studies, Professor Yarwood examines how urban and rural places are marketing themselves as part of wider regeneration strategies.*

The talk will run on Wednesday, 20 May, 1.00 – 2.00pm and will be hosted via Zoom. If you are interested in attending, fill out your details on the following survey link, and they will send you more details nearer the time. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R89PQB2>

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#### Your future

Thank you to those students who identified themselves as wanting to take part in the *EtonX* research course. I should be able to come back to you with more details next week.

#### Universities and Apprenticeships

As I said last week, we will spend some quality time exploring Post-18 pathways after half-term, and here we will give far more airtime to non-university progression routes, such as apprenticeship opportunities. If you are getting restless about researching apprenticeships, *Unifrog* is definitely your way forward, and I would recommend its search facility above the likes of the government apprenticeships search tool (<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>). On the topic of the government, The Department for Education has put together *The Skills Toolkit* (<https://theskillstoolkit.campaign.gov.uk/>), an online resource containing free digital and numeracy courses, to help people build up their digital skills from home during the coronavirus outbreak. This may be worth a look for some of you.



#### Igniting Enterprise

Anyone studying business or interested in setting up their own business in the future might want to watch a webinar series presented by the Peter Jones Foundation, an organisation established by star of *Dragons' Den* and renowned entrepreneur, Peter Jones CBE. The *Igniting*

*Enterprise* series will bring together some of the brightest and most engaging minds in business, from a broad range of disciplines, and explore the motivations, mindsets and challenges in successful entrepreneurship. From big brands to innovators and ambitious creatives, they will find out how individuals and organisations are using their collective power to fuel long-term sustainable development.

I forwarded a message to you by e-mail on Tuesday highlighting the first talk in the series on Wednesday, 6 May. To view and register for upcoming talks, click [here](#).

#### University of Exeter – Discover University

Although I have said not to worry too much about researching universities and courses yet, and that we will come to this in the second half of the summer term, if you are keen, I have included a reminder below of the University of Exeter's *Discover University* online programme, which is running throughout May on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/DiscoverUniExe>).

[UniTasterDays](#) is another resource that you may find useful – they will send you a weekly e-mail of university-related opportunities if you sign up to their mailing list.

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The University of Exeter will be supporting students, parents/guardians, teachers and advisors over the coming months through various digital platforms. Join us in supporting students to make informed decisions about their future.

Coming up in May:

Date	Platform	Title	Time	Suitable for:
5th	Facebook	Choosing a course	14:00	Year 12 students, teachers, parents/guardians
wk commencing 6th	Facebook	STEAM real world lecture series - Mental Health and Wellbeing - numerous lectures delivered throughout the week	Various	Years 9-13 students
7th	Facebook	Studying a Degree Apprenticeship	14:00	Year 12 students, teachers, parents/guardians
11th - 15th	Facebook	Living prospectus week	16:00 - 17:00	Years 9 - 13 students
12th	Facebook	Choosing a course	14:00	Year 12 students, teachers, parents/guardians
14th	Facebook	Studying a Degree Apprenticeship	14:00	Year 12 students, teachers, parents/guardians
wk commencing 18th	Facebook	STEAM real world lecture series - Research to brighten your day - numerous lectures delivered throughout the week	Various	Years 9-13 students
19th	Facebook	Student Life	14:00	Students, teachers, parents/guardians
21st	Facebook	Making the most of the Online Open Day	14:00	Year 12 Students, teachers, parents/guardians
End of May	Online Open Day platform	Online Open Day	Various	Year 12 Students, teachers, parents/guardians
All month	University website	Questions about our courses? Talk to a current student and find out more - <a href="http://www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/">www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/</a>	All day	Students, parents/guardians

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#### Post-College pathways

I can see that many of you have logged into *Unifrog* over the last week, providing some really useful information about your future pathways. This enables us to best plan what we deliver to support these pathways in College. If you have not already done so, please could you make sure that you have an up-to-date Plan A and Plan B for your Post-18 Intention in *Unifrog*. The intentions may be very tentative at the moment – don't worry about this!

#### Making applications

### Post 18 Intentions

- ✗ Plan A: UK University  
Application not yet submitted.
- ✗ Plan B: Apprenticeship  
Application not yet submitted.

[Start >](#)

### Locker

You have 1 student item and 1 teacher item saved so far

[View locker items](#)

[Go to tool >](#)

### Applications list

You have 5 applications

[View applications](#)

[Go to tool >](#)

Add in details if you can, but at a minimum, choose a pathway for Plan A and Plan B from the dropdown menus. This will allow me to best plan the sessions we deliver in College.

#### Plan A Pathway

Your first choice

#### Plan B Pathway

Your backup

? What is your Plan A Pathway?

UK University

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select a pathway ----

UK University

Apprenticeship

FE Course

Job

Non-UK University

Other

I don't know

? What is your Plan B Pathway?

Apprenticeship

Save

#### Early entry students – Oxbridge, Medics, Vets and Dentists

Again, because applications for these courses go off earlier than for other university courses, if you have not already done so, could you let me know by e-mail if you are considering Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine/Science.