

## Newsletter, January 2016

Dear Student, Parent/Carer,

The new term is well underway and there has been lots going on here at UTC Swindon.

We are delighted to announce that UTC Swindon is already at 75% capacity for September 2016. If you know anyone thinking about joining us at UTC Swindon, please encourage them to get their applications in as soon as possible. Places will be allocated from Tuesday 1 March 2016.



### Revision

UTC Swindon is offering students every option to maximise their revision by bringing in professional services with an activity morning on “Maximising Success”. An organised intervention programme for Year 11 students approaching their GCSEs has started with focused support on specific subjects and assignments. Half-term and Easter booster sessions will also be running (details to follow).

### Projects

Our industry partners have offered their support on many fantastic projects.



TE Connectivity has been working with our students on some very interesting challenges. One student team is producing a scrape abrader to test aeronautical wiring, while the other team is writing a study into potential use of additive (as opposed to subtractive).

We are thrilled to say that these two teams of students are entering a national competition with both projects and attended a residential week in Gloucester in December.

We also welcomed Siemens into UTC Swindon this month where they worked with our students on a project linking computer science and Raspberry Pi. They investigated train networks and how it all links together using computer controls.

A team of Year 11 students are going to Colston Engineering Services Ltd as part of a project to design and build a high end security cabinet. They’ll be getting hands-on, industry experience and will be able to put their questions to the professionals.

The thriving Tuesday evening Engineering Club has allowed students to work on their own project ideas or work as part of a team in manufacturing a Tiger Team sports car.



Tiger Sportscars have supplied the parts and materials and the UTC Swindon students are building the Wisbech-based company's Avon model.

The cars will be fully road legal, with one car produced by Year 10 and 11 students and another by Year 12 and Year 13 students.

Specifically engineered aerodynamics help the two-litre performance cars accelerate from 0 to 60mph in approximately 4.4 seconds.

The project will enable students to develop a wide range of vocational and project management skills. Once produced, the cars will be sold by the students to raise funds for similar future projects. UTC Swindon will also use a branded Avon Tiger Sportscar at events throughout the catchment area, demonstrating the types of projects available at the college.

### **Careers and the future of our students**

Our Sixth Form students have started receiving offers for universities. We've had nine students who have applied to universities and eight students have been offered places. One of our female students has received five offers!



We are supporting students by providing careers advice for students in Year 11 and Year 13, but in addition any student can speak to Stephanie Foreman for advice. Please contact her for an appointment [sforeman@utcswindon.co.uk](mailto:sforeman@utcswindon.co.uk).

### **Student and staff visit to Kenya**

Students in years 11 – 13 have been offered a fantastic opportunity to take part in an engineering and charity related project in Kenya, with one of our business partners, Younite Outreach Project.



The project will involve fundraising, planning and a visit to Kenya in October 2016, when we will support the building of a school for orphaned and homeless children, along with leading activities with the children themselves. These activities fit with our specialisms of engineering and enterprise, as well as developing personal and social skills.

For more information or if students are interested in attending, please contact Stephanie Foreman [sforeman@utcswindon.co.uk](mailto:sforeman@utcswindon.co.uk)

## Open Days

We are hosting an Open Evening on Wednesday 23 March 2016. Everyone is invited to come along but there will be a particular focus on Sixth Form courses and options. The evening will run from 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm. We recognise the skills shortage for engineers in the UK and we are combining core subjects with essential vocational skills. This event will support students in making the decisive move from education into work or further study.



Saturday 16 April 2016 is our next Open Day, at which we will have several industry partners present throughout the day, offering key & practical advice to current and potential parents and students.

The Open Day will take place from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

With all very best wishes

Angela Barker-Dench  
**Principal**