

"Transforming lives through learning."

Parent Update - May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers.

GCSE, A Level and technical qualification exams are now well underway and students have applied themselves well to the challenges these bring. In addition, significant work has been done in supporting students to complete technical assignments to required standards and we are grateful to the tireless encouragement and support of the Engineering and Digital teams alongside guidance from our Learning Mentors. We are confident that this will put students in a strong position if they perform well in the external exams.

We are running revision sessions during the half-term holidays and students have been given information for these.

As in previous years, we want every student to have a positive progression pathway after their time at UTC Swindon and have provided support to ensure that 100% of Year 11 and 13 students have their September destinations planned. We will be available to provide additional guidance on exam results days (more information to follow), but should you wish to discuss your child's future plans with us in more detail, do not hesitate to contact Hollie Danby (Assistant Principal) – hdanby@utcswindon.co.uk.

Royal Navy Challenge 2019



At the end of last term, our three teams of finalists had the opportunity to put all of their hard work to the test at the national competition finals at HMS Sultan, Gosport. The event is a great opportunity to display the STEM talent in UTCs, along with key work attributes of problem-solving, teamwork, innovation and creativity. Although we were unable to retain the U16 title, both Josh Clarkson and Malakai Willlis won individual prizes



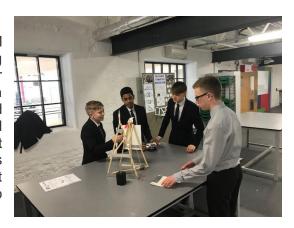
of Amazon vouchers and the teams managed to disembark their craft onto the island but could not recover the downed helicopter. However, they would all have gained massively from the experience and can look ahead to the 2020 competition. Sincere thanks to Sarah Crookes and Ben Scanlan from the Engineering Team for their support and guidance throughout the project.





Royal International Air Tattoo competition

All Year 10 students recently competed in this annual STEM challenge, designed to test programming and design skills, along with key employability qualities of teamwork and innovation. After a tight set of testing, the winners were a team consisting of Kian de Melo, Jaume Reyes, Dylan Telfer, Miles Grove-Welsh and Lucas Romanek. Congratulations to the team who have qualified to represent UTC Swindon at the finals on Saturday 20th July at the Air Tattoo held at RAF Fairford. We wish them every success and enjoyment at this prestigious global event - an entry ticket has also been provided for a member of each family, who, no doubt, will be arguing who should accompany their child!



Pipeline Programme

We are currently planning this employer programme for 2019-20 and there are several new partners who are keen to be involved in supporting students in fulfilling their STEM career aspirations. The programme is planned to be more fully established for all students next year, with a more focused offer in the Sixth Form.

In case you missed it, a report was published last term by the National Foundation for Educational Research highlighting how UTCs are leading the way with employer engagement. The article can be viewed by clicking this here.



Open Day – Saturday 29th June (10.00am-1.00pm)

We are holding our final Open Day of this academic year on Saturday 29th June, which is a great opportunity to show off our fantastic facilities, meet with staff and partner employers and for student ambassadors to guide prospective new students around the site.

If you would like to attend, or know of potential students who might be interested in finding out more about UTC Swindon and STEM-based careers, please complete registration via this link.

Social Media

We regularly add news items on our Facebook and Twitter accounts and would still like to achieve 15,000 'likes' on Facebook - by the end of August if possible, so that we can share the achievements and profile of UTC Swindon. Your help in this would be much appreciated and you can view posts via the following links: https://en-gb.facebook.com/pg/UTCSwindon/about/

https://twitter.com/utcswindon?ref src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor

Key Dates

June

Tues 18th Tues 25th Year 10 Manufacturing/Digital assignment day Year 10 Systems Control assignment day

July

Mon 1st – Fri 5th Mon 8th – Fri 19th Mon 8th - Tues 9th

Thurs 11th Tues 23rd

August

Thurs 15th Thurs 22nd

September

Tues 3rd Weds 4th Year 10 Exam Week Year 10/12 Work Experience New Year 10 Taster Days

Year 5 STEM Day End of term (12.30pm)

Year 12/13 Results Day (9-11am) Year 11 Results Day (9-11am)

Year 10 Induction Day Start of term (all students) Other dates, including holidays, are shown on our website (www.utcswindon.co.uk).

Have a lovely half-term week.

With all best wishes,

Jon Oliver

Principal