



Parent and carer newsletter

July 2024

A letter from the Head of College

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've come to the end of another year at Treloar's. We've had a fantastic term with students getting political, out into our local community and doing new things. You'll see some detail on the fantastic events that have been taking place and a huge thanks to everyone who's enabled them.

This is always a bittersweet time in the college when we say goodbye to so many students as they embark on the next steps. To all those moving on, thank you for all you've given us and letting us share in your journey.

A special congratulations to Sally for her Paralympics selection (which you'll see more of in the pages of this newsletter). We'll all be cheering for you in Paris!

We've seen an increase in vehicles breaking our speed limit in the last few weeks. Please ensure that you maintain our 10mph in all areas on site including on the main drive beyond the barrier. With so many wheelchair users and hundreds of staff it's there to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your support.

We'll have a big group of new students join us in September and we look forward to welcoming them in the Autumn and seeing the college grow further. We wish you all a fantastic summer and for those returning see you in September.

All the best,

Ben Bastin

Head of College



<u>Dates for your diary</u>	Autumn Term 2024
Monday 2 - Friday 6 September	Professional Development and Preparation Days for all staff (5 days)
Monday 9 September	Start of half term 1 Residential and Day students (including ALTON COLLEGE) Residential and Day students return directly to college at 9.00 am Staggered start dates for NEW students
Wednesday 9 October	ALTON COLLEGE inset day
Friday 25 October	End of half-term 1 (including ALTON COLLEGE) College closes 3.30 pm Houses close 3.30 pm
Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November	Half term holiday for staff and students (including ALTON COLLEGE)
Sunday 3 November	Weekend residential students return to Houses 2.00 pm onwards
Monday 4 November	Start of half-term 2 (including ALTON COLLEGE) Day students and weekday Residential students return 9.00 am
Tuesday 12 November	ALTON COLLEGE inset day
Friday 20 December	End of half term 2 (including ALTON COLLEGE TBC) College closes 2.00 pm Houses close at 3.30 pm

Updates from Sally Nissen, Head of Nursing and Healthcare

On behalf of School and College Managers, this is a reminder about Treloar's role in medical appointments and hospital admissions.

Medical appointments are the responsibility of the student and or family. This is because parents and carers can support their young person with previous medical history and decision making, whereas Treloar's staff cannot.

For students under 18 years, parents and carers are expected to arrange the appointment to suit their availability to collect and accompany the student (or attend the online appointment with them).

For residential students over the age of 18, we will only support appointments at the local Alton community hospital. For appointments where decisions need to be made, we ask parents and carers to accompany the student. For appointments out of the immediate area, parents are expected to collect and accompany the student. Online appointments are just as important as face-to-face ones and require family attendance.

Day students: We are unable to provide staff support, or transport, for day students attending appointments.

NHS letters: Over the past year, we have noticed that the NHS are sending appointments directly to students at Treloar's and parents and carers are sometimes out of the loop. If appropriate, please ask for appointments to also be sent to parents and carers.

Medical emergencies: Where there is a medical emergency, we will arrange transport to a local hospital with staff to support the student for a brief period until family members and carers arrive, for example, during the journey and initial assessment. Please note that there are limitations to the scope of practice for Treloar's staff in other settings such as hospitals.

Support for students in hospital: We require parents, guardians, or carers to support their young people throughout their stay in hospital and participate in decision making with NHS teams. However, in exceptional circumstances we will endeavour to work proactively with you to support where we can. When ready for discharge, we anticipate that most students will go home to recover further. A reassessment of the student's needs will need to take place prior to their return—the Treloar Progress and Transition Co-ordinator should be your first point of contact.



Updates from Sally Nissen, Head of Nursing and Healthcare

Worried about medical appointments or hospital admissions? For all exceptional circumstances please contact the Treloar Progress and Transition Co-ordinator.

Note for September—newly prescribed medicines and medicine changes

For all new medicines or prescription changes, we need written confirmation from the prescriber before we can make any changes ourselves to the medicines administration record (eMAR). Written confirmation can include: the right hand side of the repeat prescription, a clinic letter, or a recent GP medical printout. Send to: Medicalsecretary@treloar.org.uk before the start of term. Where possible, please send medicine in unopened packaging, with a legible prescription label, within date and with a note to show when it was opened (if liquid or cream). Thank you for your support with this.

Infectious diseases

Thank you for your support in managing infectious illnesses. At this time, we are monitoring for local measles cases carefully. Please follow NHS guidance <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/> and keep students at home when they are unwell.



Experiencing 4 seasons in 1 day!

During the Well-being Week, Moonbeam Theatre spent a day with Treloar's students and performed in FT Hall. This accessible theatre company, based in Canterbury, is dedicated to creating innovative multi-sensory theatre for young individuals with Special Educational Needs, more specifically Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities.

Alicja Thomsen, Sensory and Interactive College Tutor, said:

"The performance was fantastic and the students were mesmerised by the colours, smells, all the movement, music, and the unique experience of being able to absorb the theatre through all their senses from such a proximity."





Treloar's hosts NATSPEC Games

"This was a really cool day!" said one student who took part in the NATSPEC Games in Guildford.

In June, Treloar's had the pleasure of hosting the NATSPEC Games at Surrey Sports Park. Students from specialist colleges across the South East were invited to take part in inclusive sporting activities and celebrate their skills.

It was an absolutely brilliant day with students having the opportunity to try out many different sports and activities, receiving support from Paralympic coaches and disability sport leads.



General Election Hustings

In June, student governors Archie and Isobel welcomed prospective candidates for East Hampshire to take part in a hustings event for students and staff from both the School and College.

Archie and Isobel invited all the local candidates to attend. They were delighted that four local candidates accepted the invitation and took part in the event.

All the candidates were invited to make a short opening statement followed by student questions. Speaking to the School students in the morning and the College students in the afternoon, they had a full schedule. During lunchbreak all staff had an opportunity to meet the local candidates.

[Find out more on our website.](#)



Isobel goes paddling

Kayaking is a popular student activity at Treloar's and it wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for the volunteers from Basingstoke and Dean Canoe Club.

Treloar College student Isobel has been practising her skills over the long, wet winter months and was keen to show her family what personal success looks like.

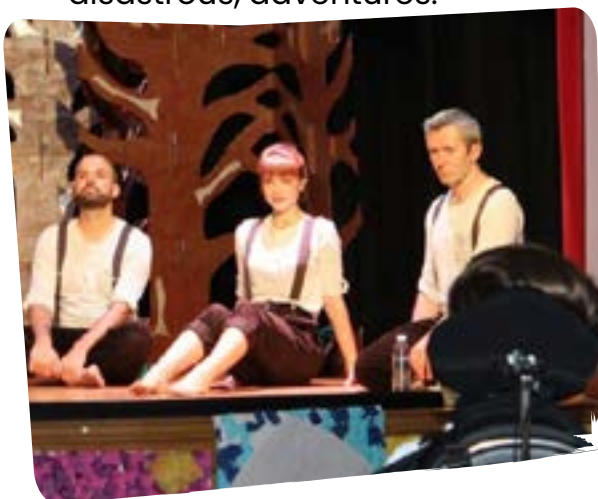
Isobel recently took to the Basingstoke Canal and joined a group of young kayakers, with her family admiring her from the side. On this occasion no one got wet!

A gift of theatre

A London Livery, The Worshipful Company of Founders, have been delighting our students at Treloar's for over 5 years with performances from Box Tale Soup—an award winning puppet theatre company.

They have very kindly funded performances of Hansel and Gretel, Little Grimm Tales, Alice in Wonderland and most recently Wind in the Willows.

Ratty, Mole, the infamous Toad and Badger brought squeals of delight from the students as they entertained the students, with Ratty and Mole trying valiantly to suppress Toad's short-lived, and often disastrous, adventures.





College students meet with corporate supporters

Treloar's students Amirah and Thomas joined Andy Brown, Corporate Partnership Manager, and Mary Menzies, Work Experience Co-ordinator at Parker Hannifin UK on 12 June for a presentation about Treloar's and about their upcoming volunteering day with us.

'Experience of work' day for future interns

Next year's intern students met with Hannah, from Northgate in early July to talk about the plans for next year for the internship programme.

Northgate is a vehicle hire company with around 7000 employees, 68 branches and about 7.500 customers and they have been training Treloar's students and getting them prepared for the workplace when they leave college.

Students had the opportunity to go on a tour, visit their office, meet some of the employers and learn about the practicalities of their work. The students also took the opportunity to assess the building in terms of accessibility through the 'Let Me In' project and present areas of improvement to managers.

Andy Brown said: "It was great to come and meet the Parker Hannifin team and talk about Treloar's and the work the team will be doing for us on 3 July. Having Amirah and Thomas there to talk about their life at Treloar's really helped explain how they are helped to learn vital skills when they leave Treloar's. Work experience is a great way for our students to be involved in different working environments and industries."

Amirah added: "It was very enjoyable to meet all of the people and to see the engineers at work."



Election day

This year students in College have had access to various opportunities to gain knowledge on our political system in the UK. We have had tutor time sessions discussing the democratic system and its importance in our country. Students have joined an interactive session together in the FT Hall where they learnt about the importance of decision making and received a factual overview of the main political parties.

All students who are of voting age have been encouraged to vote if that's something they wish to do. Students have voted by postal votes, in person at the polling station and with their families after college. All eligible students have registered to vote if they have wished to even if they haven't placed their vote this time.

Students in Isabel Murray's class were then set the task of finding their local polling station and leading the staff team there using google maps. Once there, all the students went inside the station checked accessibility whilst speaking to the volunteers running the station. One student asked: 'Would we have support to make our cross in the box if we struggle with handwriting?'

On the way home the students spoke about their visit and agreed it was 'really interesting'. Thomas said he was going to do a polling station comparison as he was going to vote this evening with his parents!





Sally selected for 2024 Paralympic Games

College student Sally has been selected to represent Paralympics GB as part of the boccia squad in the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

Making her debut for Paralympics GB, she'll be playing alongside former Treloar's students Will Arnott and Treloar's patron David Smith OBE. Sally said:

"I am absolutely over the moon to be able to represent Boccia UK and the Paralympics GB team at the Paris 2024 Games. Competing in the Paralympic Games is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I am grateful beyond words to have been selected to be a part of such an amazing group of people. I am really excited to continue to build the momentum we have begun this year within the BC3 Pair and am looking forward to continuing to develop within the individual competition amongst a field of fierce competitors. It's been a crazy journey so far, filled with challenges, triumphs, and many, many hours of hard work, but I can't wait to see what lies ahead and continue the journey at my first Paralympic games."

[Read more on our website.](#)

College art exhibition

The art curriculum offers students the opportunity to communicate, share and express their individual creativity, independence, resilience, and self-awareness whilst providing them with the fundamental skills, techniques and knowledge needed to create both unique and collaborative pieces of art or craft.

Every year, during the summer term, college students put out an exhibition that can be admired by all staff, students and visitors. This year, the exhibition was divided into 3 themes:

- From my perspective
- Colour, texture and weave
- Colour

[Read more on our website.](#)





Sports Day

We were delighted to celebrate our students' sporting talents at our annual Sports Day.

College hosted their Sports Day down the 6 lane sports track situated behind the staff car park. The weather was perfect: our staff team of SSAs, tutors, therapy team, PE and sports teams as well as classmates joined with big cheers and lots of support for all our participants.



Sea adventures

Whether students are residential or day students, life outside the classroom is an important element of their time at Treloar's. As a specialist school and college for disabled students, we have fully adapted facilities and equipment to enable students to take part in a wide variety of activities both on and off campus.

There is always something going on for students to enjoy, from sports and social clubs to community outings, discos, sports clubs, games evenings and cinema nights.

Just recently, Treloar College student Robyn went sailing for the first time! She said:

"I had such a great time. We went to Portsmouth just for a day trip as it's almost the end of term. I loved driving the boat. Although it was very windy and cold. It felt amazing but I didn't like the big waves as much because it felt like we were going to tip. But I would definitely do it again. It was fantastic!"



Dance workshops

Thorngrove School from Newbury visited our Primary students to deliver a Dance and Movement workshop.

Students from Thorngrove last visited Treloar's in 2020, just before the pandemic. The 2 schools were initially brought together by a student at Thorngrove School whose sister attends Treloar's.

12 students from Treloar's took part in this wonderful workshop where they discovered the joy of storytelling through dance and movement.



Owlsome birds of prey experience

Treloar College students had an OWLSOME time getting to know a variety of birds of prey during Well-being Week. Alan from First Class Falconry spent a day at Treloar's, introducing students to his birds and sharing fascinating facts about them and his job.

We were really lucky as Alan brought with him a variety of different bird species. Both students and staff were impressed by the fantastic display: amongst others, we met a huge Siberian eagle owl with piercing orange eyes that was really patient with the students and happy to be stroked.

During the presentation, Alan also showed us a kookaburra—not a bird of prey, but definitely the most memorable out of the whole bunch! Even though Alan warned us about it, it took us all by surprise when we heard its distinctive song!





Health and Well-being Week

During Health and Well-being Week students were given the opportunity to take part in many different activities to promote their physical, social, emotional and mental health and well-being. Students tried things they had not experienced before and also joined together to celebrate successes. This year, we had such a variety of activities and events which were thoroughly enjoyed by all:

- Treloar's Got Talent
- Sports Day
- Moonbeam Theatre
- Pottery Workshop
- Lego Workshop
- Art Exhibition
- Hand Massage
- Nail Bar
- Boccia
- Prickle Lodge Hedgehogs



Pots to paint!

As a part of Health and Well-being Week students from different college classes gathered in the FT Hall for the pottery workshop delivered by Stephanie from Pots 2 Paint. Everyone enjoyed being creative and designing their products by making selections of the colours to paint, choosing the shape of the stamp to decorate their mugs and bowls. There was a fantastic, creative, and therapeutic atmosphere in the room!

At the end of the activity all the bowls and mugs were collected and taken by Stephanie to be fired in her kiln.



Brilliant bricks

We were really lucky to be visited by Sarah from Brilliant Bricks during our Health and Well-being Week.

Sarah led students through a Lego workshop. Everyone was encouraged to work on creations with an 'Under the sea' theme as it was such a hot day!

Students made amazing works of art during the workshop, building on teamwork skills, communication skills, creativity skills, problem solving skills and so much more.

Some students chatted with their peers and shared advice and support with each other whilst creating their masterpieces; other students took the opportunity to be mindful and in the moment.

Feedback from students was that it was 'fun and different', 'made me remember being a child' and 'loved being creative'.





College prom

July is prom season: staff from all across campus including catering, therapy, dietitians, support assistants and the teaching staff all come together to support the event and ensure that every student looks their best and can enjoy their evening. Student committees are involved in the planning process and choose the menus, decorations and entertainment options.

The college prom began with photos in the piazza and Chill Out Room—all the students have their photos taken with their friends and teachers.





Let Me In assess new disabled toilets

While doing their internship with Changing Places Toilets, Joe and Hannah went to Petersfield to assess a new toilet opened by Changing Places.

Located in Petersfield's Central Car park, the new facility will make those locations more accessible for people with limited mobility to work and visit.

Changing Places toilets include a hoist and changing bench and are roomy enough for one or two carers. The facilities received the seal of approval from Hannah and Joe.

Hannah said: "Knowing that there is an amazing accessible toilet in the town is huge deal for me. I can visit without worrying about the time I spend in town and I can do more when I am out and about."

Joe said: "Having a well-equipped accessible toilet in the local area, makes my life much easier as I don't have to go home to use my facilities and come back into town again."

Hazel Wark, Assistant Head of

Treloar College, said: "Through our 'Let Me In' project we are working with local authorities and facilities to make our local communities more accessible. We are always looking for accessible places to visit with our students. The addition of facilities like these really make our students' lives better and enhance the opportunities for us to safely access the community."

Day out at Woodlarks

College students had a fabulous day out at Woodlarks Campsite in Farnham. On the day, everyone took part in a nature trail walk, photography competition, picnic, games, marshmallows and songs round the campfire—and a giant game of Hide and Seek!

Students really enjoyed spending time with their peers and staff outside of college and enjoyed the outdoors and excellent facilities Woodlarks has to offer.



Arts Week

For our Arts Week staff and students from across the school and college came together to enjoy an amazing timetable of 5 workshops.

On the first day, students and staff were treated to a Yo Chi and arts workshops. Yo Chi is a specially designed form of exercise combining Yoga and Tai-chi for physical well-being.

On day 2, Reflections of the Lord Mayor Founder and Director Chris Seow and 2 professional artists ran stained glass workshops for the students.



On day 3, we welcomed drummer Matt for some inspiring and energising African drumming workshops. The workshops included call and response, experiencing different rhythms and following the dynamics and tempo of Matt's drumming. One of our school students said that the workshop "made him feel happy and excited and that he had not been to anything like this before."

Day 4 was spent with Maddy Hurlstone, harpist and newly qualified music therapist. Primary



students enjoyed hearing a selection of classic tunes from Disney to Bach. They also had an opportunity to try playing the harp, and performing alongside Maddy using the Clarion.

On the last day, we had the pleasure of listening to film songs performed by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra performers together with BSO Resound musicians.

What's on at Treloar's

Thank you to Treloar's parents who attended and showed their support at our latest event The Lady Mayoress's Afternoon Tea Party at Mansion House, London.



In aid of
 **Treloar's**

The Dummer Fair

9th & 10th October 2024

Featuring over 80 stalls, from crafts, food and drink, clothing, gifts and much more!

www.dummerfair.org.uk

Sponsored by


savills

 Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR