

## Parent Newsletter

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you've had a good week. With only 4 weeks left of this academic year, we have been busy planning our calendar for next year. The Inset Days for 2024-2025 are as follows:

September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024

September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024

December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024

February 10<sup>th</sup> 2025

June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025

Danebury School will open its doors to all pupils on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024.

I've carried out lots of learning walks over the past 2 weeks with other members of staff, it's been great to see pupils actively engaged in their learning. I can see the impact of the training we carried out earlier in the year on raising the ratio of participation when carrying out learning checks. Mini whiteboards are in greater use, ensuring all pupils are thinking and contributing throughout. I can also see more scaffolds in place to ensure pupils are supported in their learning. Another priority this year has been to develop whole school reading strategies, this will continue into next year, literacy is one of the biggest barriers to learning, it's vital we do all we can to remove these barriers. Please do encourage your child to read everyday, it will really help them in their learning.

On the subject of literacy, we were fortunate enough to have a visiting Poet in on Friday to work with our Year 7s on poetry writing. I popped into the workshops several times; it was great to see them all absorbed in their learning. Many thanks to Caleb for visiting us.

There has been a marked improvement in uniform this week, many thanks for your support with this. Next week a letter will come out to you explaining how you will be supplied with the new items of uniform for September. We are working with our supplier Stitch-a-logo to finalise the process. It looks like Summer may finally be arriving, temperatures are set to rise next week, pupils won't be expected to wear their blazer or jumper, they are welcome to leave them at home, normal uniform otherwise please.

On Thursday evening we held our Year 11 Prom at Norton Park Hotel, it was the most wonderful evening and a night I hope they will never forget; I know us as staff won't, we absolutely loved every moment celebrating with them. We were incredibly fortunate to have Mrs Brush's band – Boron Beats, entertain us for two hours, followed by Paul Greer our brilliant DJ. The much-anticipated arrival ceremony was both magical and entertaining! Big thanks to all the parents, carers and family members who came, you really added to the atmosphere (note to parents in Year 7-10, if your child tells you not to come and watch the arrivals because nobody else's parents do, they do!) Everyone looked stunning, the Italian themed meal was lovely. Rounding off our speeches were our Head Students Sam and Keysha, I wish you had all been in the room to hear their heartfelt words, I can't tell you how moving they were. We have been truly blessed to have these incredible ambassadors for our school and we are so very proud of every student within the year, the Class of 2024 will be forever in our hearts.

Wishing our Year 10 pupils the best of luck with their Mock exams which start this week, I know they've had lots of exam preparation within lessons, I hope lots of revision is happening at home.

This week we welcomed some of our Year 7s for next year, our enhanced transition was a great success, so much positivity and huge smiles by the end of the day. They were eager to tell me what they'd enjoyed, I then asked if there was anything we could do to make the day better, they replied 'we want to start tomorrow'. So lovely to hear. We look forward to our main transition day on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. Have a great weekend.

*Warm wishes,*  
**Mrs N Goodridge**  
**Head of School**



More about all the activities occurring in and out of lessons at Test Valley School can be found on our Facebook page: Test Valley School, Twitter Feed: @testvalleysch and Instagram Account: testvalleyofficial. Reshares and likes are always appreciated!

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## Vacancies

Please see our website for current vacancies: [Test Valley School - Vacancies](#)

## Venue Hire

Do you require a room for a meeting or sports event? School facilities are available to hire outside of the school day. Please email [leisure@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:leisure@testvalley.hants.sch.uk) for all enquiries.

## Forthcoming Dates

**w/c June 24th**

**Week 2**

Year 10 Mock Exams

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June – ADSSA Athletics Charlton

Test Valley School is delighted to ***invite parents of EAL*** pupils to a coffee morning on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 10am**. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Attendance

### Appointment reminders:

Medical and Dental appointments should, where possible be made for outside of school hours. If your child has an appointment during school hours, please email us at [absence@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:absence@testvalley.hants.sch.uk) with the details and proof of the appointment giving at least 24 hours notice where possible.

Thank you.



## Congratulations!

Well done to Hebe for her outstanding work in English this week.

Tuesday 18 June

As I sat on the park bench, I watched the obscure, shadowy figure stalk towards the dilapidated building that was the main object of my interest. This particular building served as a police station and it was as mysterious as the masculine silhouette approaching there. He wore faded jeans hugging his legs in an awkward embrace, and a jacket with a hood that concealed his face from prying eyes like my own. His shoes cushioned his feet and insulated his footsteps even on gravel. In fact they made his footsteps so silent that I didn't hear him behind him nearly 3 hours later.

The only way I could tell he had approached from behind was that because his breath was ragged and his muffled murmuring was slightly too loud. Neither his jeans nor his jacket rustled as he moved. He stopped around 5 metres away from my bench to tie his shoelaces. His hood hung loosely around his shoulders revealing creased eyebrows and a weighted smile. Stubble coated his chin like dust on a high shelf. All of this might give the impression of someone you would throw a casual smile to on the street. But the eyes made it clear he would never smile back. He would sneer. Grey Fathomless eyes darting around. Suddenly he let the shoelaces hang limp. His face becomes a mask of friendly feigning. He straightened and he turned towards me. He could only be described as chameleon-like. He flashed me a beguiling smile that looked wrongly flashed across his face, as if he had hurriedly drawn it on. But I couldn't see through his veil to the man beneath who is known across the globe for tracking down police suspects, using harsh methods of interrogation and even torture, and then selling the information to the corrupt police force that are based in the building before me. He is a traitor and a villain. He is dangerous.

He is also known for killing anyone who gets in his way. Or who sees his face. Like me.

He turns and walks confidently away and I snatch a last glance of his smiling face.



## Key Stage 4

### Top of the pops last week

Oliver	Levy-Clinkard	10CE
Eleanor	Yeo	10CE
Evie	Kanarens	10PH
Megan	Ross	10CE
Rosie	White	10PH

### Year 10 Mock Exams

Date	Tutor P1 & 2 start	9:00am	Period 3 & 4 start	11:50am
<b>WEEK 2</b> Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Science Biology	1hr45	English Language Paper 1	1hr45
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	English Language Paper 2	1hr45	<b>Option C</b>  French Writing F 1hr5 German Writing F 1hr5 H 1hr20 Drama 1hr D.T 2hrs <b>Construction students to normal lesson</b>	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Option B</b> Geography 1hr15 Computer Science 1hr30 History 1hr		Maths Paper 1 <b>Non-Calculator</b>	1hr30
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Science Chemistry	1hr45	French Reading F 45m German Reading F 45m H 1hr	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Maths Paper 2 <b>Calculator</b>	1hr30	<b>Option A</b> D.T 2hrs Food 1hr15 Geography 1hr15 Music – 1hr30 <b>ROOM</b>	
<b>WEEK ONE</b> Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Science Physics	1hr45	<b>Option D</b> Food 1hr15 P.E 1hr History 1hr R.E 55m <b>Art students to lesson</b>	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	English Literature	1hr	<b>Catch Up Session</b> <b>ROOM 35</b>	



## Exam Preparation

Year 10 exams commence on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June and subject teachers are preparing 'self-study programmes' to support students to manage their preparations. Details of examination preparation materials will be posted to students via class-charts.

Mr Langdown will place the 'self-study programmes' into the Year 10 team and share the link to these via student's school email so that all Year 10 students can plan their preparations commencing at the end of April.

Preparation for these exams is an opportunity for student to start the process of forming good study habits which is the key to success. The one single thing which has the greatest impact upon exam success is starting preparations early and we therefore urge students to commence their study for their Year 10 exams at the end of April to give them the best opportunity to succeed.

As students' progress into Year 11, they will sit two further mock exams in November and February to further support their preparation before sitting their actual GCSEs which commence in May 2025.

Forming these good study habits now will help build on their knowledge and confidence on their learning journey and ultimately take them towards success and a wide range of choices for their next steps into adult life.

## University of Southampton Year 10 Residential

After its successful launch in 2022, this 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Learn with US Year 10 Residential invites students to live in Halls of Residence, learn all about student life at university, experience subject tasters and develop skills for learning as they work on a group project presented at the end of their stay with us.

**To improve this opportunity further, we have been working with Year 10 Youth Consultants who have evaluated what we do and made improvements that are for the benefit of their peers:**

*'This residential has been co-designed by a group of year 10 students who are determined to create the best experience for other year 10 students and to show them what life is like as a university student.'*

*In this experience, we have learned how to work as a team, and come up with different solutions to different problems we may have come across. We have given each other effective feedback on our work to see where we can improve, and have developed new ideas when doing so.'*

As a *Widening Participation* initiative, the residential is FREE for eligible students (including the reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses). Eligibility criteria, along with full details and how to apply, can be found on our webpage: [Learn with US Year 10 Residential | University of Southampton](#).

Within the application form, applicants will have to complete three shortlisting questions. In order to give the best chance for those in higher need to access the opportunity, spelling and grammar WILL NOT form part of the shortlisting process.

Applicants will also be expected to provide a teacher reference – the main aim of this is to verify the eligibility criteria, plus any additional contextual information from a widening participation perspective – we will happily assume that everyone that applies and gets a reference would be a fantastic participant! As part of this we will also need confirmation that permission has/will be granted for the days to be registered as authorised absences for the students taking part.





## JUNE 2024 Newsletter



The CPD Standards Office  
CPD PROVIDER: 22640  
2024-2025  
www.cpdstandards.com

ADHD course for Teachers, Parents and Related Professionals

**Now available as distance learning...**

**Complete in your own time!**

All sessions booked & delivered online via [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Tuesday  
11 June

19:00 - 21:00  
£24



### **Introduction to OCD ObsessiveCompulsive Disorder**

Looking at the complexity of this serious condition.

Monday  
17 June

19:00 - 21:00  
£24



### **Improving Family Communication**

How to reduce the shouting and arguing and start the talking.

Thursday  
20 June

19:00 - 21:00  
£24



### **Supporting a Child with ADHD**

Challenging the stereo types and explaining how this condition impacts on the child and giving ideas on how we can support them.

Thursday  
27 June

19:00 - 21:00  
**FREE**



### **Supporting Healthy Sleep**

Coping with insomnia, screen damage, neurodiversity dysregulation.

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



## Sport/Physical Education



South Winchester Cricket Club will be running its Summer Cricket Camp at the IBM Hursley playing fields from August 5th to 9th. The camp is for boys and girls from 7 to 14 years old. It will be run by ECB Level 2 coaches, and includes lunch each day. Further details, including cost and a link to the booking form, are included in the attached flyer.

## OPPORTUNITIES – OUTDOORS & ENVIRONMENT

### GEOGRAPHY / DUKE OF EDINBURGH / PSHE / UCAS SUPPORT

As we look ahead to the Summer, we are delighted to announce more FREE outdoor / practical sessions for local young people to explore the impact of climate change within their local communities through positive youth social action. The programme is part of the YouCAN youth for climate and nature scheme, in partnership with the New Forest National Park Authority, supported by National Lottery Community Funding.

Suitable for young people **aged 14-25 years old**, passionate about making a difference in their communities, the programme can also support skills development for Duke of Edinburgh qualifications / endorse personal statements for UCAS.

We will escort young people from Southampton on the train to some of the locations.

This includes SEVEN interactive and site-specific sessions with climate scientists, marine biologists, park rangers and creative practitioners from May to September, 2024. We will be using youth voices and findings around climate change in our local communities to inspire the creation of a brand-new theatre production - *Generation Anthropocene*.

### COASTAL

29th June (Lymington)

Learning together in Southampton and the New Forest, exploring how our local coastlines are being impacted by climate change and how we can protect our oceans. Understanding how we can restore our natural environments and eco systems and the importance of nature for survival.

Freshwater habitats and biodiversity session working with Freshwater Habitats  
EXPLORING: Rising sea levels; Sea pollution; Acidification; Coastal erosion

### CITY CENTRE - SOUTHAMPTON

13th July

7th September

...with Southampton National Park City Project and Sholing valley study centre.

Working in the heart of Southampton City, in the National Park and surrounding areas, exploring air pollution, travel and the impact of City life on our environment.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



## College Information

There is information on our website regarding forthcoming College open events, including dates and how to book a place.

**Salisbury 6<sup>th</sup> Form College:** [www.salisbury6c.ac.uk](http://www.salisbury6c.ac.uk)

**Peter Symonds College:** [www.psc.ac.uk](http://www.psc.ac.uk)

**Open Evenings:** 5.30 to 8.30 pm

3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024



**Andover College:** [www.andover.ac.uk](http://www.andover.ac.uk)

Also, it is not too late to apply to Andover College as applications are still open and Year 11 students can still apply by visiting the Andover College website or by using [Apply - Full Time and Part Time courses - Andover College | Hampshire](#).

**Sparsholt College** – [www.sparsholt.ac.uk](http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk)

Also, it is not too late for year 11s to apply to Sparsholt College as applications are still open and students can apply by visiting the Sparsholt website or by using [How to Apply - Sparsholt College and University Centre Sparsholt](#).

**Basingstoke College of Technology** - [www.bcot.ac.uk](http://www.bcot.ac.uk)

Just a quick one about an event we have coming up for your students who are interested in T Levels, and parents who maybe are a bit confused by them! It will be a short event with a quick presentation and then opportunity to talk to the course areas about their T Level offering, we currently have them in Animal Management, Business, Computing & IT, Construction, Engineering, Health & Social Care and Media. Students who have already applied for one might find it useful to chat through the course, and those who are on the cusp of entry requirements or who are considering one but aren't sure will hopefully find the information useful for decision making come results day. You can find out more information and book a free ticket here: <https://www.bcot.ac.uk/news-and-events/2024/05/t-level-information-evening/>



Pop Up Ensemble

FREE



## Pop Up Ensemble Winton School, Andover

JMST Theatre, London Road, Andover,  
Hampshire SP10 2PS  
Sunday 14 July 9.15 - 13.15

Beginner to Grade 4



Back by Popular  
Demand!



Come and be part of a  
'from scratch' orchestra!

Scan the QR code to  
register your place



Hampshire  
County Council

[www.hantsmusicHub.org.uk](http://www.hantsmusicHub.org.uk)



andover  
**musical**  
theatre  
company

amtc **starlights**  
YOUTH THEATRE

Calling all  
maggots  
aged 9-18!  
(from current Year 5+)

Do you fancy  
being a little bit  
naughty?

BOOK BY  
DENNIS KELLY

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY  
TIM MINCHIN

ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.

**31ST OCT - 2ND NOV 2024**

**FREE Workshops**

Sundays 9th and 23rd June  
Knights Enham Primary School, Andover.  
10am-12pm

**Auditions**

Sunday 30th June  
Time slots will be allocated

**Show fee £180**

This includes professional tuition, insurances and licenses, sets, props etc and all staff hold DBS  
Payable in 4 monthly instalments - sibling discount available

**To register visit [andovermusicaltheatre.co.uk/matilda](http://andovermusicaltheatre.co.uk/matilda)**

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

Andover Musical Theatre Company is a registered charity number 1143762



# CELEBRATING NEURODIVERSITY

A TRAINING DAY FOR PARENT/ CARERS & PROFESSIONALS

**19TH JUN 2024**

**Celebrating Neurodiversity Training Day**

A day that focuses on learning skills and strategies for parents, carers and professionals who are supporting an autistic young person.

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The role of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic, rising from 10.5% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

### UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

**REASONS FOR ABSENCE**  
School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the home or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for example, or a change in family dynamics. Bullying and friendship difficulties at school, pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams, or moving from primary school to secondary school.

**PATTERNS OF ABSENCE**  
You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodivergent, there is some evidence to suggest there are more reports of school refusal which can cause distress - such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

**COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS**  
There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a tummy ache, headache, or waking the bed. If when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause, always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

### IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

**LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending education is integral to a young person's education, emotional and social development, and the development of key life skills and the growth of a child and young person as a citizen.

**LONG-TERM OUTCOMES**  
The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a long-term impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future opportunities, poor emotional regulation, problems with social skills, limited academic progress and reduced employment opportunities.

**CYCLE OF ABSENCE**  
Consistent absences may contribute to a vicious cycle where over time, further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a risk to their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious - increasing their desire to stay at home.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

#### WORK TOGETHER

If there is a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach to getting towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

#### MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm, acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them live the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include meditation, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

#### FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetable routine for the child's school day, if required.

#### REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

**Meet Our Expert**  
With 30 years' experience as a therapist, teacher, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Benham has a superb understanding of what works in promoting school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.

**WakeUp Wednesday**  
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guide/school-avoidance](https://nationalcollege.com/guide/school-avoidance)

[X @wake\\_up\\_weds](https://www.wake-up-weds.com)
[f /www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)
[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.wake-up-weds.com)
[@wake.up.weds](https://www.wake-up-weds.com)

Hampshire Parent Carer Network (HPCN) in partnership with Hampshire CAMHS are delivering monthly meetings across the County. For more dates and venues click here.

FUTURE IN MIND PARENT PEER SUPPORT

# PARENTS & CARERS MEETINGS

**31ST MAY 2024**





# SUMMER TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each  
Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

<b>FREE - Supporting Healthy Sleep</b> <b>FREE - Cannabis &amp; Ketamine Awareness</b>	27 JUN 30 JUL
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	16 MAY, 11 JUL, 8 AUG
Understanding the Teenage Brain	20 MAY, 15 JUL
Raising Self-Esteem	21 MAY, 16 JUL
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 MAY, 20 JUN, 18 JUL, 15 AUG
Anxiety Explained	30 MAY, 25 JUL, 22 AUG
Understanding Anger	3 JUN, 29 JUL, 26 AUG
Introduction to OCD	11 JUN, 6 AUG
Improving Family Communication	17 JUN, 12 AUG
Autism: Improving Communication	8 JUL, 5 AUG
What is ACT?	9 JUL
Decreasing Depression	23 JUL
Supporting Healthy Sleep	20 AUG
Today's Teens & Drugs	27 AUG

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



Please find our Raring2go! Summer magazine link below. It's full of things to do for families during the Summer break,





Summer Reading Challenge 2024  
Delivered in partnership with libraries



Hampshire  
County Council

Library Service

# Marvellous Makers



**This summer we need volunteers in  
our libraries to help us run the  
Summer Reading Challenge!**

**It's great fun and very rewarding – if you're aged 14+  
please speak to a member of staff or scan the code to  
find out more and apply:**



THE  
READING  
AGENCY

Celebrating  
creativity

**CREATE**  
HANTS LIBRARIES



Illustrations by Natelle Quek and logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2024



## Other Events

### **Annual "Trout n About" street festival in Stockbridge**

This year it'll be held on **Sunday August 4th**. The whole of the High St will be filled with artisan food, drink, crafts etc. And there is a Festival Field which has music, children's activities, circus skills, face painters etc food trucks and a picnic area.



Have a concern about you or  
someone else?



***At Test Valley we are committed to building an engaging inclusive environment where success and excellence is experienced by all. We will achieve this by ensuring:***

### **KINDNESS**

We always show care, respect and consideration for each other. Test Valley is a warm, welcoming and safe place for all.

### **RESILIENCE**

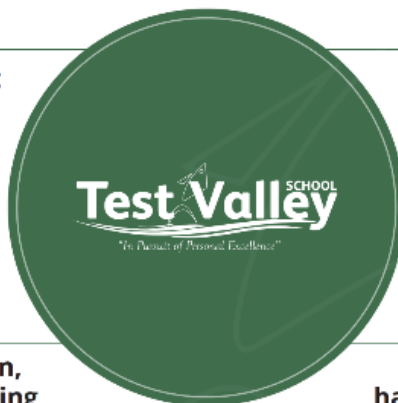
We show courage by not giving in, challenging ourselves, stepping out of our comfort zones and not fearing failure.

### **EXCELLENCE**

We are relentlessly determined to strive for the best in all we do; developing excellent learning habits which help us to grow.

### **EMPOWERMENT**

We help pupils to evolve into happy, independent, knowledge rich citizens who have the skills to make a real difference in our ever changing world.



***In pursuit of personal excellence you must dream big work hard and make it happen.***