

Year 7 Autumn Term Events and Challenges

September 2016

Dear Parent

Welcome to Test Valley School Year 7.

As mentioned to you at the Induction Evening back in June, I have put in place a number of events and activities for your child as well as opportunities for your own involvement with the school, which I have outlined below.

I would also like to introduce our newly formed 'Friends Of Test Valley School' (hitherto known as FOTVS with a silent 'V' ☺). The parents who have volunteered for this group are raring to engage and support a host of events during the coming year. If you would like to get involved with FOTVS please contact me for more details.

Year 7 Sporty Challenge Event

Planned to be held on Tuesday 20th September from 12.30 on the bottom field, weather permitting, this is a Sports Day event that has been built within the Aspire curriculum for Year 7. This event has been planned specifically at the beginning of the year to kick start the house points system and to give pupils that all important sense of belonging to their new school community. Parents are warmly welcome and no doubt our newly formed FOTVS will be there to supply refreshments and raise some start-up funds.

Year 7 Challenge Camp

On Saturday 24th September commencing at 12pm in the school hall with a packed lunch, we intend to run a Challenge Camp within the grounds of Test Valley School. This event is limited to 80 Year 7 campers and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost will be £15 and will include the materials/activities as described below, evening meal/breakfast and a parent's breakfast on the Sunday morning at 10.30. In the event of over subscription your child will be placed on a waiting list and the payment will be held but not cashed. Once a place has been booked for a pupil the payment cannot be refunded unless it is possible for another pupil to take their place.

To secure a place at the Year 7 Challenge Camp please complete the reply information on page 3 and 4 and return to the Pupil Services with the payment at your earliest possible convenience.

The programme for the camp will be as follows:

PTO

HEADTEACHER ▪ MISS L HISCOCK B.ED (HONS)

Roman Road, Stockbridge, Hampshire SO20 6HA — Tel 01264 810555 — Fax 01264 810173

Email: office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk — Website: www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk

Saturday 24th September

12.00 – 12.30	Arrive and eat a packed lunch – brought from home
12.30 – 13.00	Games
13.30 – 18.00	A series of workshops to include Street Dancing, Tie-Dying a T-shirt, Team Challenges and Steel Band
18.00 – 19.00	Evening meal
19.00 – 20.00	Setting up camp
20.00 – 20.30	Campfire with songs and marshmallows
20.30 – 22.00	Film
22.00 – 22.30	Bed routine

Sunday 25th September

07.00 – 07.30	Rise and shine
07.30 – 08.30	Strike camp
08.30 – 10.00	Pupil breakfast
10.00 – 10.30	Rehearse team dance routines
10.30	Parent(s) breakfast – bacon roll/hot drink (included in the price) Pupil dance-off performance in their tie-dye T-shirts.

Cancellation

In the unlikely event of insufficient take-up, the camp will have to be cancelled. Kit list and documents relating to this activity are attached on additional pages.

Year 7 Test Valley Challenge

We will also be offering your child the opportunity to complete the Year 7 Test Valley Challenge which will take place over the course of the year. This Challenge Award offers pupils in Year 7 a set of extra-curricular Challenges to enable them to gain achievements in a wide variety of skills and to be able to demonstrate their talents outside of the classroom situation. This Challenge scheme is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme but set at an age-related level. It is unique to Test Valley School and is designed to get pupils actively involved in a range of extra-curricular opportunities.

We expect a high percentage of pupils to take part in this opportunity and wish to celebrate their achievements at an Award ceremony at the end of the academic year.

Year 7 Fancy Dress Spooky Disco

On Friday 21st October from 6pm to 8pm we will be holding a Fancy Dress Spooky Disco for Year 7 in the School Hall. Further details will follow later with expected competitions, tuck shop, funky activities, parent café and spooky music.

Year 7 Challenge Camp

Reply Slips:

Please complete the reply forms attached and return them to Pupil Services with a payment of either cash or a cheque for the relevant amount. Cheques need to be made payable to 'Test Valley School'. Payment via the e-payment method will also be available once the trip has been confirmed.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Mr. S Langdown, Year 7 Coordinator

Year 7 Challenge Camp Equipment List

Please wear:

Old clothing which you are able to get dirty	
Trainers	

Please bring:

Sleeping bag	
Roll mat	
Pyjamas	
Spare footwear	
Complete change of clothing/extra jumper for evening to avoid being cold	
Tooth brush/ Tooth paste	
Washing equipment/towel	
Sun hat or warm hat & gloves (weather dependent)	
Snack food for late evening - optional	
Warm jumper & fleece	
Torch with batteries	
A water resistant coat	
1 litre of drink	
Sun cream (weather dependent)	

Please hand in to Mrs Osborne upon arrival

Personal medication	
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Reply Slip — Please Return to Pupil Services

I give permission for my son/daughter T/G

to take part in the Year 7 Challenge Camp at Test Valley School on 24th/25th September 2016 as described in the letter dated September 2016.

I have enclosed:

£ (cheques made payable to 'Test Valley School')

I wish to pay via the e-payment method

I understand that once my child has been accepted on the camp a refund will not be possible unless another pupil is able to take their place. This is because events/workshops will have already been booked and paid for.

If your child's medical details or your contact data have changed since you signed the annual medical form, please can you provide the relevant details below:

A) Medical detail changes

B) Contact details for the weekend

Signed (parent)..... Date.....

Please print name.....

Test Valley School Detailed Code of Conduct for School Trips

Residential Activities

1. General:

Irrespective of the destination or duration of the visit, pupils will not only be representing The Test Valley School but also Hampshire and Great Britain. It will therefore be expected that pupils will behave in an exemplary fashion at all times, as the whole party will be judged by the actions of individuals.

This document has been prepared in such a way as to cover all types of activity held outside of the school day and therefore by its very nature, not all sections below may apply to the activity in question. Further, other unexpected situations may arise that are not covered in the text of this document and it is therefore stressed that any decisions taken by the Party Leader in respect of pupil behaviour, will be final and binding.

2. Behavioural Requirements and Responsibilities:

Instructions given by teachers and any support staff must be obeyed without delay, at all times. Punctuality is essential – watches/phones must be checked regularly and all meeting times adhered to.

- Pupils may not go anywhere alone. The minimum requirement is that unsupervised pupils must be in a group of three and an adult must always know in advance where the group will be.
- Punctuality is essential – watches/phones must be checked regularly and all meeting times adhered to.
- Personal music players may be used with headphones only with staff permission and the volume level must be kept low so as not to disturb others.
- The property of others must be respected at all times.
- Coaches/minibuses are at all times to be kept tidy, free of litter, chewing gum and other substances which may cause damage.
- The instructions and requirements of the Coach Company and its Driver are to be respected, likewise that of any other transport operator. Seatbelts are to be worn at all times.
- No pupil may leave any site unless accompanied by an appropriate adult.
- Hotels or other residential properties must be kept tidy, free of litter, chewing gum and other substances which may cause damage.
- Pupils are to respect the needs of other visitors.
- Bedrooms/tents are out of bounds to members of the opposite sex at all times. No exceptions to this will be tolerated.
- Bedtimes will be strictly adhered to with no noise after lights out.
- Any damage is to be reported to a member of staff immediately.
- Pupils are to be aware of the needs of other pupils, and to be supportive of each other.

- Pupils may not purchase or otherwise have in their possession fireworks (bangers), flick-knives, laser pens, bb guns, lighters, matches, inappropriate literature or any other such item.
- Pupils may not smoke or otherwise have in their possession any tobacco product, consume or possess any kind of alcoholic drink, or use or have in their possession any kind of illegal substance.
- Misuse of any kind of chemical substance, whether legal or not is not permitted. In the case of medication, permission will be granted by prearrangement.
- Any pupil whose behaviour is considered not acceptable, prior to the trip/activity, can be withdrawn at the discretion of the school.

3. Sanctions:

Any pupil who is found or considered to have broken any of these rules or who has behaved in any other unacceptable manner will be subject to one or more of the following sanctions:

- i) Loss of privilege for a period of time during the trip/activity.
- ii) Isolation/close supervision for a period of time during the trip/activity.
- iii) Isolation from other pupils for the duration of the trip/activity.
- iv) Immediate repatriation.
- v) Temporary or permanent ban from future school visits, including educational visits.

4. Agreement:

Parents should be fully aware that when signing the attached form of agreement, which will in all cases be binding on them, any cost/s for any damage caused by their child and borne on their behalf by Test Valley School, shall be reclaimed in full from them by Test Valley School immediately the trip or visit ends.

Furthermore, should any pupil be considered to have misbehaved sufficiently, that in the view of the Party Leader, the only suitable punishment is immediate repatriation, the cost/s of such repatriation shall be borne entirely by the Parent/s concerned. For the avoidance of doubt in this matter, if the Party Leader requires that a pupil or pupils return home immediately, the respective parents must undertake immediately and without question to either make the necessary arrangements to collect their child, or in the case of foreign visits, the Test Valley School will make arrangements to fly the child to a suitable UK airport, from where the Parent/s must collect their child. In all such cases the pupil or pupils will be handed over to airport authorities for onward transportation to the UK, where airport authorities will hold the child until collection.

Test Valley School Detailed Code of Conduct for School Trips

Residential Activities

To be returned to Pupil Services

I/We have read and fully understand the contents of the Code of Conduct document and agree to be fully bound by the terms and conditions laid down.

Name of the Activity: **Year 7 Challenge Camp**

Name of pupil

Tutor Group

Signature (Parent)

Date

Pupil signature

Date