

21 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to keep you informed with regards to your child in Science this year.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding as we have been adjusting class sets at the start of the year – with extra pupils joining into the year, this was much needed!

We have now settled into our learning routines across the year and continue to study the Key Stage 3 curriculum in Science. Your child will be covering the following topics this autumn term:

- The nervous system and the brain
- Genetics & Evolution
- Reactivity
- Waves

After finishing these topics, we will be moving onto the GCSE curriculum to allow us to provide in-depth coverage of all subject areas and overlearning of key concepts taught throughout Key Stage 3. This will ensure all pupils have the opportunity to progress rapidly in Years 10 and 11.

In order to best match the needs of your children, we will hold "End of Key Stage 3" science assessments in December. These assessments will give us a good idea of what course (Separates or Combined Science) and what entry tier (Higher or Foundation) would be best for your child. This will allow us to put class groups in place that best suit your child.

All pupils in Year 9 will still be taught content required for all science GCSE routes, and these class groups will not be "locked in". That means that as your child progresses through Year 9 and beyond, we will be using regular assessments to determine if their needs have changed, and adjust classes accordingly.

Many thanks,

Mr S Scott
Head of Science & Technologies
Test Valley School

Help is at hand for families struggling with the utility bills

If you are having difficulties with the cost of energy bills, you may be eligible for a FREE fuel voucher from Citizens Advice to help pay for your utilities.

For more details and to find local branch contact details visit the Citizens Advice website: <https://citahants.org>

HEADTEACHER ▪ MS T. WILDEN B.A. (HONS)

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

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



Test Valley School



@testvalleysch



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