

Parent Bulletin

Friday 14 January 2022

Week commencing Monday 17 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Is this really only the first full week since we have been back in school? We are certainly back in full swing with pupils making the most of the opportunities afforded to them at Test Valley, both in and out of lessons. It was pleasing to see the turnout of so many Year 11 pupils at after school revision sessions this week. We anticipate this will rise even further as Year 11 practice exams approach in the February.

The response from parents to the change in mobile phone enforcement this week has been heartening. It appears pupils are on board too, with a reduction in confiscations throughout the week. Please remember, if your child's phone is confiscated and you need to contact them (or vice versa) this can and should be done through the school office.

Although there may be glimmers of hope with the COVID pandemic, pupils are still required to wear face coverings indoors (unless exempt). Pupils are also asked to test twice a week at home. [DfE guidance for parents can be found here.](#)

We welcome parental feedback in other respects, so we encourage all parents to complete the [parent survey here](#) at your convenience.

Please note the forthcoming dates

18th January 2022 – COVID vaccinations for eligible pupils
27th January 2022 – Year 11 Parents' Evening (virtual)
7th February 2022 – Year 11 Second Practice Exams start
10th February 2022 – PSHE Day
18th February 2022 – Year 11 Second Practice Exams end
18th February 2022 – end of half term

More about all the activities occurring in and out of lessons at Test Valley School can be found on our [Facebook page](#), Twitter Feed and Instagram Account. Reshares and likes are always appreciated!

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Parent Questionnaire

As advised in previous communications, below is a link to our Parent Questionnaire which we invite you to complete at your convenience.

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE PARENT SURVEY](#)

Headteacher Detentions

Headteacher Detentions are held every Friday from 3.20-4.20pm in room 12. If your child has been given a detention with the headteacher, you will be notified via email beforehand. If your child fails to attend the detention and we are not given a justifiable reason in advance, your child will be placed in a day's isolation at our earliest convenience.

MFL

Well done to all the pupils who made a delicious Galette des Rois for our competition. The standard was very high and Mrs Knight, Mrs Vaughan, Mrs Dover and Mrs Lynn had the very difficult job of tasting them all and choosing the winner.

Eventually, it was decided that Lucy's (Y7) Galette just had the edge. Congratulations!

Also, a big well done to Isabella (Y7), Sam (Y9) and Matilda (Y11) for taking part and making a delicious Galette as well.



Maths

In Monday's maths clinic the work will be covering **Probability**. All pupils in year 11 are welcome to attend but targeted invitations were being sent out on Thursday.

English

KS3 pupils - Please remind pupils that they should have a reading book on them every day as part of their essential equipment. Tutor reading is on Monday afternoon and pupils have a dedicated reading lesson once a fortnight. Please ask your child what they are reading, and perhaps even read it along with them too!

Year 11 - English revision began on Wednesday. We had a good turn-out for the first session. This week we will be looking at Language Paper 1, question 4 - Evaluation. Please encourage your child to attend.

If your child is stuck for what to revise, there is a wealth of material on Teams for them to use for English. Follow the links: All Pupils - Files - English - Year 11 Revision 2021-22 and select the subject and text you want to focus on. Writing answers to questions, re-reading texts, quizzing yourself on the characters and themes and making flashcards of the key quotations for each text are just some of the ways for the pupils to revise.

KS4		
10PH	Simon	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
10GR	Megan	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
10CE	Kyle	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
10CR	Oliver	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
11PH	Thomas	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
11GR	James	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
11CE	Ruby	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term
11CR	Hannah	Most stamps achieved in tutor for first term

Year 11

A letter has been sent out to Year 11 parents detailing information around the Year 11 practice exams, preparation workshops and dates for the summer GCSE examinations.

Year 11 should be continuing to spend approximately 2 hours per evening preparing for the up-and-coming practice exams in February and beyond in preparation for their GCSE examinations.

In addition to guidance materials provided by staff on teams, revision materials can also be purchased including guides and revision cards.

Further, a letter about the Year 11 reports and one about the Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening have been sent out.

11 DT

Year 11 DT workshop: Each Wednesday 3.30 to 5pm. All DT students welcome

Homework Club

With exams on the horizon for our year 10 and 11 pupils, we would like to remind you about the Homework and Revision Club which has been set up to provide a supervised quiet study period where pupils can use the school's computers to do their homework and to hone their revision skills in preparation for their exams next term.

The club runs Monday to Thursday each week after school from 3.20pm to 4.30pm in Oasis. All are welcome...

Please encourage your child(ren) to make full use of this opportunity and if they're interested, please register their intention to attend with the supervising staff member at redingtonr@testvalley.hants.sch.uk

Library Resources for Health and Well-being

We were delighted to be involved in the Partners in Learning event that took place last year and wanted to share with you some of the resources that are available to you and your children, both through the Test Valley School Library and through Hampshire Libraries.

Test Valley School Library

- Open every break and lunchtime for pupils to visit
- Regular library lessons for KS3 pupils
- Range of age-appropriate fiction and non-fiction books
- Free access to eBooks and AudioBooks, through our Digital Library (ePlatform)
- Comprehensive booklists on a variety of topics, created by experts at Hampshire School Library Service

Digital Library (ePlatform)

Accessible through a web browser on a computer, or through the ePlatform app on your mobile device, all pupils need to do is sign in with their school login details, and then browse and borrow titles.

You can borrow two titles, for up to four weeks. Once the title has been downloaded, you can read or listen without using any additional data. All titles are free to borrow.

You can access the Digital Library through this link, or go to Teams, then All Pupils, then Links, and then School Resources.

[Test Valley Secondary School UK - Test Valley Secondary School UK \(wheelers.co\)](https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/wheelers.co)

Hampshire Libraries

- Free to join, and free to borrow most items
- Range of fiction books, non-fiction books and magazines
- Shelf Help and Reading Well booklists
- Free access to eBooks, AudioBooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers
- “When a book might help” (Booklists on a wide range of situations and experiences)



Booklists

You can access the booklists on these links:

[Young people's mental health | Reading Well booklists | Books | Reading Well \(reading-well.org.uk\)](#)

[Children | Reading Well booklists | Books | Reading Well \(reading-well.org.uk\)](#)

[When a book might help... – Hampshire Libraries](#)

We do hope that these resources are helpful, and please feel free to contact Mrs Lowin on lowins@testvalley.hants.sch.uk for any library related enquires.

School Uniform and General Equipment

As we start the new term, please can we remind you of our uniform expectations.

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/school-uniform/>

Covid-19 Vaccinations

The Immunisation Team will be attending school on Tuesday 18th January to administer the second COVID -19 vaccinations. Online consent forms are available to be completed after 13th January and you have until midnight on Sunday 16 January for completion.

The unique code for your child's school is SH116426.

To complete and submit the e-consent form, please visit:

www.southernhealthimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Covid

Guidance on how to complete the e-consent for Covid-19 can be found at:

<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/school-age-immunisations>

Medical Room

If your child is feeling unwell during the school day, in the first instance they should report to the medical room to be assessed. If it is felt your child needs to go home, a member of the office team will call the main parent contact number we hold. Pupils should not phone home on their mobiles to be collected from school. If you are unsure, please do not hesitate to call the main office number to check. Thank you for your cooperation.

Water Bottles

Pupils are encouraged to stay hydrated during the school day and so we are asking parents/carers to ensure they send their child into school with a bottle of water every day.

School Drop Off and Pick Up

Please can we kindly remind parents that pupils should be dropped off and picked up in Stockbridge. For pupils' safety and respect for residents, the roads around the school and the staff carpark should not be used. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

HC3S Catering

Our school catering team work hard to ensure our pupils have nourishing and healthy food. Please see our website for all the latest information and menus.

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/our-school/catering-services/>

Young Professionals Event

We have received the following email highlighting an event being run by Young Professionals which might be of interest to those pupils in years 10 and 11:

At Young Professionals, we ran a 'Your Child, Their Future' Event back in September 2021 and we had a staggering 3000+ parents and carers attend virtually from all over the UK. After such an incredible turnout and amazing feedback, we are now planning our second parent information evening in February 2022.

The job market for students leaving school or university can be difficult to navigate and now more than ever we need to help our young people by making them aware of all the opportunities available to them, as well as providing them with advice and tips on securing the very best opportunities when

they enter the workplace. Therefore, we would like to extend our invitation to all parents and carers to attend our **'Your Child, Their Future' Event on Thursday 3rd February at 6pm - 7.30pm.**

We have leaders from some of the biggest employers in their industry including M&S, HSBC, PwC, Capgemini, Linklaters and more who will each come along to talk to you, as parents and carers, about how your son/daughter/young person can best navigate the job market to find some incredible work experience/internship placements, as well as graduate and apprenticeship opportunities. We will be sharing some useful tips around psychometric testing, how to prepare for assessment centres, putting together a CV, filling out application forms, as well as advice on how you can prepare your child/young person for the working world.

This event is completely free of charge and it will be running via Zoom on **Thursday 3rd February at 6pm - 7.30pm.** You will have the opportunity to join this event virtually with your son/daughter/young person, or the whole family and ask any questions that you may have, directly to leading employers.

The booking link can be found below here, so please do sign up if you would like to attend. The zoom link will be emailed to you nearer the time.

Booking Link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YP-Parents-Event>

Safe Internet Use

We have received some comments from parents about their child's use of social media including Instagram. Can we remind parents of the recommended minimum age for using various social media platforms:



A useful guide for parents on the different social media platforms is available at:

[Social media guides - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)