

Parent Bulletin

Friday 8 April 2022

Week commencing Monday 25 April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

MESSAGE FROM MR GIBBS

You will have received separate communication from Roma Chappell, Chair of Governors, outlining the hard work being undertaken to secure the long-term future of the school. Within that letter, it has been confirmed I will be returning to Crestwood after Easter. I regret not being able to stay longer to be part of the continuing journey of Test Valley School, but for personal reasons this was not to be. I am delighted to hand over the mantle to Mr Page. Having worked with Mr Page very closely over this term, I have every faith the school can progress further under his and the new SLT's leadership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the pupils, parents, staff and governors for their welcome back to the school and their support over this term. I wish you *all* the very best for the future.

INSET DAY

Please note that **Monday 25 April** will now be an additional INSET Day. This follows the letter you should have received from Mrs Chappell, Chair of Governors. We understand that another change of dates is difficult for parents and pupil. However, it is vital that we work closely with all of our colleagues as we prepare for the forthcoming term.

NEW TIMINGS AFTER EASTER

As we are moving into examination season, we will be initiating our adjusted timings of the school day after Easter. This will mean that break takes place after Period 2. All other times are unchanged.

0850	0925	Registration
0925	1025	Period 1
1025	1125	Period 2
1125	1145	Break
1145	1245	Period 3
1245	1320	Lunch
1320	1420	Period 4
1420	1520	Period 5

Forthcoming Dates:

Monday 25 April – INSET Day
Tuesday 26 April – Pupils return to school
Thursday 28 April – Year 8 Parents Evening
Monday 2 May – Early May Bank Holiday
Thursday 5-Friday 6 May – School Production
Monday 16 May – GCSEs commence

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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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 for all enquiries.

Preparation for Summer Term

Over the Easter break, please take the opportunity to ensure that your child has the correct equipment needed for school. It is disruptive to your child's learning if they do not have the correct equipment and have to ask teachers or other pupils to lend it to them.

Pupils are expected to have appropriate writing tools including black or blue pens, pencils and erasers, a ruler, a pair of compasses and a protractor. A suitable resealable drinks bottle, which can be re-filled from the water dispensers by pupils during break and lunchtime is recommended. From Year 7 onwards pupils will need a scientific calculator.

We ask parents to have belongings clearly marked.

School Uniform

We are looking forward to welcoming our pupils back to school ready for the Summer Term. At Test Valley School, we believe that wearing a smart uniform shows a readiness and commitment to learning and that the uniform for our school should reflect the highest of standards and pride in our school.

The guidance on our uniform expectations is available to view on our website at:

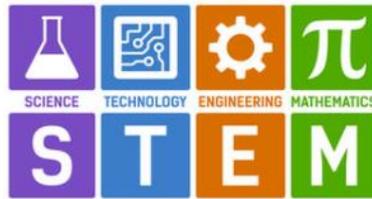
[Test Valley School — School Uniform](#)

Please support us by ensuring that your child follows this expectation fully.

Use of Toilets During Lesson Time

In order to make the maximum use of lesson pupils should not ask to go to the toilet during lesson time. There is plenty of time at break and lunch for most pupils to use the toilet. Please could you discuss this with your child to ensure that they understand the need to use the toilet at an appropriate.

However, we do understand that a small number of pupils have a medical condition that requires them to visit the toilet as required. These pupils will be issued with new toilet passes after Easter



STEM in the News

Hubble: 'Single Star' detected at record-breaking distance



[Hubble: 'Single star' detected at record-breaking distance - BBC News](#)

What do YOU think?

STEM pupil of the week:

Grace B: Year 10
STEM Subject: Maths
Date: 4 April 2022

English

KS3

The best thing pupils can possibly do to help their learning over the Easter holiday is to *READ!* Just 20 minutes a day will increase their vocabulary, through exposure to 1.8 million words a year.

Please ensure that pupils bring a book with them to school upon their return. They should have one as a part of their essential equipment every day.

Year 11

A huge well done to *all* of our year 11s who have worked really hard this term. They have been exemplary in their attitudes and commitment to their studies in English; I could not be prouder of them.

During the second week of the holidays, there will be some online revision sessions for Language and Literature revision. Pupils will receive the timings of these as an assignment with the link for them to join via Teams and their email. We will record the sessions for those pupils unable to attend live.

The after-school revision will continue on Wednesday afternoons, from 3.20-4.20 pm. The topics are:

27th April - Paper 1, Question 4 - Evaluation

4th May - Paper 1, Question 2 & 3 - Analysis

11th May - Paper 1, Question 5 - Creative writing

KS4

Shoutouts to our top 5  points last week

Year 10

Kyra D
Henry A
Kingsley B
Morgan B
Oliver L

Year 11

Joshua H
Holly O
Thomas H
Charlie T
Hannah L

Year 11 Exam information Advice

All Year 11 pupils have been emailed a revision planner template and completed example.

Year 11s have also been emailed a link to the teaching schedules for all subjects. They can use these to plan their revision sessions.

Please work through past exam papers as well as working through revision materials. All resources can be found in subject teams.

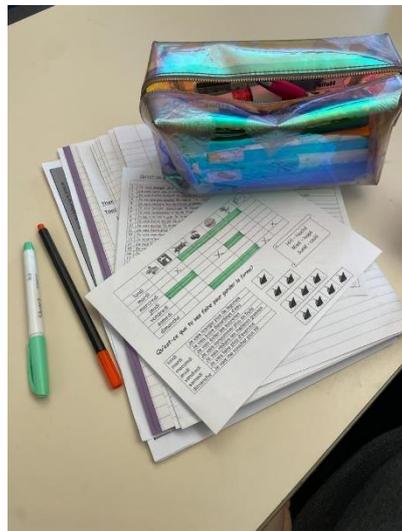
It is also very important to build breaks into revision planning and downtime for themselves to relax and do things they enjoy.

MFL

In MFL we are working hard to prepare our year 11 French and German classes for their upcoming GCSE exams.

The speaking assessments have been scheduled for Tuesday 9th May for French and Thursday 12th and Friday 13th May for German. Specific timings will be released at a later date.

However, we still find time to have a bit of fun! Mrs Dover's year 11 French class have been enjoying playing battleships while practising their speaking skills on the topic of healthy living.



We have also been enjoying MFL film club this week. Lots of pupils turned up to watch Harry Potter à l'école des Sorciers and plenty of popcorn was eaten!



Pupil Recognition

Mrs Osborne and Mr Langdown held an end of term giant quiz and bingo in the hall on Friday to celebrate the achievements of 200 of our exemplary pupils, all those who achieved 99% positives on ClassCharts – well done to all the pupils for their efforts.

Managing Exam Anxiety

Mrs Whitehead will be offering a Drop-In session for Year 11s only. These sessions will be held on a Tuesday lunchtime (12:45 - 1:20) in Room 30a and all are welcome. The sessions will start the first week back after the Easter holidays.

Any pupil that has concerns, questions, or simply wants to offload can come along.

Pastoral Support - Exam Brochure

Please find attached links to an Exam Brochure the Pastoral Department has created. This document provides pupils with strategies/information/exam techniques/Apps/Websites and how to cope with exam anxiety amongst other resources.

The Brochure has been split into sections so that it can be downloaded in parts if you did not want to download the whole document.

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-1.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-2.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-3.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-4.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-5.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-6.pdf>

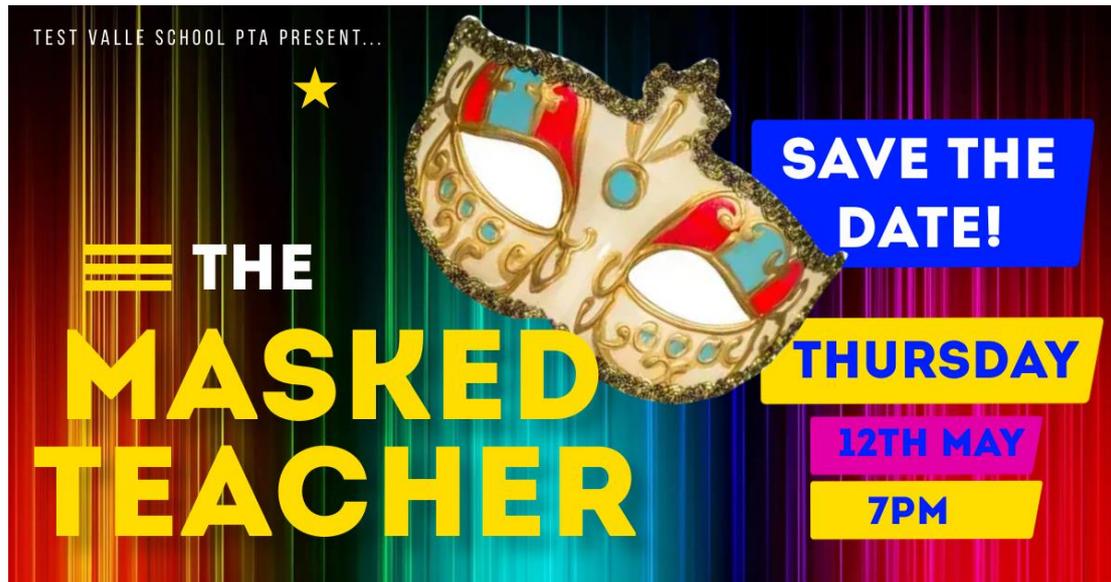
<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-7.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-8.pdf>

<https://www.testvalley.hants.sch.uk/content/uploads/2022/04/Exam-Booklet-Part-9.pdf>

Congratulations

News from Mrs Lynn: Charlotte Rose Lynn was born on Friday 1 April. Mum and baby are doing very well



Save the date!

On Thursday 12th May at 7.00pm, Test Valley School PTA will hold the first ever Masked Teacher event. You're in for a treat! Guess the singers, enjoy a ploughman's supper and have a drink from the bar. Family tickets go on sale soon.

It's not too late to sponsor a costume, for details email testvalleypta@gmail.com.

Will you guess the Masked Teacher?!

Easter Holiday Activities

<https://unityonline.org.uk/easter-holiday-activities-and-events-in-andover/>

[Easter Holiday Activities and Events in Andover - Unity Online](https://unityonline.org.uk/easter-holiday-activities-and-events-in-andover/)

Easter Holiday Activities and Events in Andover. News April 1, 2022

unityonline.org.uk