

Parent Newsletter

Friday 3rd May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to our Year 11s who have embarked on their first GCSE exams this week. The pieces of Art produced were wonderful, so creative and varied, well done to our amazing artists! Well done to our Year 11s who sat their Animal Care exam this week, they came out feeling confident and with smiles on their faces, long may that last!

As mentioned last week, we had a two-day Inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, which was carried out by our Trust. Each one of our School Improvement Priorities was thoroughly reviewed and benchmarked against Ofsted criteria. I'm so proud of our pupils, they were incredible, within lesson, around the site during breaks and during pupil voice meetings with our visitors. I haven't received the full report yet but here is a snippet of the feedback I received.

"There has been a dramatic sea of change in this school"

"It's like coming to a different school from 2 years ago"

"The lineups gave us goose bumps; pupils are positively connected with every morning"

"The Headteacher connects and communicates to every member of the school"

"Pupils feel safe, supported, enjoy learning, feel they belong and appreciate staff and the small community"

"Culture of Confidence in the leadership team, the culture is being lived and modelled."

"Strategic approach to improvement, there is a strong sense of doing the right thing in the right order"

"There is a wrap around culture of inclusivity"

"Leaders have ambition for their curricula"

"Do Nows are embedded and some staff are challenging pupils with last week, last month, last year"

"Strengthening evidence of talk/pair/share to allow pupils to synthesise their thoughts and oracy"

"There was evidence of staff breaking learning down to meet SEND needs and application of the passports"

"Engagement in all lessons"

"Intervention lessons are improving the attendance, behaviour and engagement of pupils"

Areas for Development

- To continue to raise the ratio of participation and challenge in lessons
- To continue to develop the use of adaptive teaching strategies to meet the needs of all learners
- To promote more opportunities for oracy within lessons
- To plan more opportunities to explicitly teach key vocabulary
- To embed our whole school reading strategies

Our first NHS Roadshow took place on Tuesday, 50 KS3 pupils were lucky enough to take part, many thanks to the NHS for the valuable workshops which took place and well done to our pupils whose behaviour was excellent. Many thanks to Mrs Martin for organising the day.

Please can I remind you of our uniform policy, we are seeing an increasing amount of jewellery, piercings and acrylic nails.

- *'A single earring in the lower lobe of each ear, i.e. a single pair of small studs or sleepers may be worn. No other piercings are acceptable.'*
- *'No other jewellery should be worn at school, except for one charity band if desired. Watches may be worn at the owner's risk.'*
- *'Artificial nails and nail varnish are not allowed.'*

I will be adapting our policy with regards to nose piercings. Pupils with a nose piercing will only be allowed to wear a clear retainer, studs and rings are not permitted.

Good luck to our linguists next week when they sit their German and French speaking exams, also to our PE pupils completing their GCSE practical moderations.

Good luck to our Duke of Edinburgh explores this weekend, enjoy your adventures and keep safe. I hope you all enjoy the long weekend, let's hope the sun shines on us all.

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 for all enquiries.

Forthcoming Dates

w/c May 6th

Week 2 Timetable

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday – No School

Tuesday 7th May – GCSE French & German Speaking Exams

Wednesday 8th May GCSE PE Moderation

Thursday 9th May – Main GCSE's begin

Inspiring Future Teachers

[Test Valley School - Are you interested in becoming a teacher?](#)



School Catering



Hampshire County Council

Education Catering

Our school/college caterers are award-winning caterers, managed by Hampshire County Council Education Catering, **formerly known as HC3S**. Visit the dedicated pages on their website for their price list and other information. [Middle Schools, Secondary Schools and Colleges | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#) You can also keep up-to-date, by following them on social media.

Facebook: @hantseducationcatering

Twitter: @hantsedcatering

Congratulations



Congratulations: Benji, Brandon and Kaycie-lea!

Kaycie-lea - Gold
Benji - Silver
Brandon - Bronze

A fantastic weekend for Kaycie-lea Cockerill, Benji martin, and Brandon martin, who attended the Hampshire closed this Sunday just gone and achieved a spot in the Hampshire team. The judo company practice at school Tuesday Wednesday Thursday evenings what a proud moment not only for us parents but for school too.



Well done to all the children who gained medals from the judo company this weekend

Thank you

“ Huge thanks to the Lovell family for donating a few tonnes of compost to help us rejuvenate our allotment area! The children and Mrs Vincent have been hard at work creating new beds and planting vegetables 🥕 🥔 . We are so lucky to be part of such a kind community, thank you 🙌 “

#



A big thank you to Hilliers Rosebourne Weyhill for very kindly donating us compost and vegetables. Happy Gardening. ♡



GCSE Exams good luck to all Year 11.

Please help students get prepared for their exams, we have board in school with the exam timetable, Be prepared with exam equipment.

Year 11 GCSE Self Study Programmes have been emailed to Year 11 and put in the Year 11 MS Teams site ready to keep the exam preparation momentum going.

Top of the pops last week

Will	Weatherall	10CE
Oliver	Levy-Clinkard	10CE
Rosie	White	10PH
Elliot	White	10PH
Evie	Kanarens	10PH
Ella-Mai	Kane	11CE
Benny	Gerrard	11PH
Dylan	Lyne	11PH
Ollie	Eggleton	11PX
Esther	Mabaire	11PX

Year 10 Exam Preparation

Year 10 exams commence on Monday 24th 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 3rd 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.

Key Stage 3

Duke Of Edinburgh's Award - Year 9 students Bronze Award sign-up

Test Valley School supports students signing up to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award through the exceptionally well-run Andover Community Church Open Award Centre licenced by Hampshire.

Staff and ex-staff from Test Valley School support the centre's programme throughout the year. Candidates from Year 9 who sign up to the award programme form teams and meet at Andover Community Church fortnightly from October of the autumn, the programme also contains day walks, night orienteering, training days and two weekend camping expeditions.

[Duke of Edinburgh' Award Application Form](#)

There are a limited number of spaces offered and would therefore urge interested candidates to apply early in order to avoid disappointment.

Information evening on Thursday the 6th June at 7.30 pm at Andover Community Church

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. T

he 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.



Summer Cricket Camp

South Winchester CC
SO21 2JN

5th-9th August 2024
9.30am-3.30pm

Level 2 coaches
7-14yrs

£32/day or £130 for 5 days
(includes lunch)

10% discount for siblings

Age group specific drills
Fun games
Nets Matches
Prizes

Sports hall available if wet

Queries?
graham.meech@gmail.com

To book:
<https://forms.gle/Bqi5StvjABMHRDrQ7>

South Winchester Cricket Club
EST. 1962

NHS Roadshow

Photos from the NHS Roadshow this week



College Information

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

Salisbury 6th Form College: [Test Valley School - Salisbury 6th Form College](#)

Peter Symonds College: [Test Valley School - Peter Symonds College](#)



Open Evenings: 5.30 to 8.30 pm

3rd & 4th July 2024

1st & 2nd October 2024

Andover College: [Test Valley School - Andover College](#)

Registrations are now open for Andover College's next open event

Wednesday 8 May 2024, 4.30pm – 7.30pm.

To attend, your students will need to register for the event **as soon as possible** by visiting [Open Events - Andover College | Hampshire](#) **as our events do fill up quickly!** 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

Sparsholt College's next open event on Wednesday 1 May 2024
(Slots between 5.30pm – 7pm) .

To attend, your students will need to register for the event **as soon as possible** by visiting [Experience Sparsholt - Sparsholt College Hampshire](#) **as our events do fill up quickly!** At this event students will have a tour of the subject area they are interested in at a specific time which they will book in advance.

Also, it is not too late 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

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/>

Future Events



ENGINEERING APPRENTICESHIPS 2024 RECRUITMENT CLINICS

- Tues 5 March
- Wed 24 April
- Thurs 16 May
- Tues 11 June

4.30 - 6pm *Booking advised*

Why attend?

- Join us at one of our Recruitment Clinics to provide practical support & guidance to anyone from Year 11 upwards wishing to apply for an engineering apprenticeship starting in September 2024 (parents are welcome too!).
- Come along to discuss the current vacancies, what the roles involve & get guidance on writing a great application!

Who should attend?

- Anyone looking for an engineering apprenticeship starting in September 2024
- School or College leavers in 2024
- Those just thinking about a change in career, this event is for you!

Where is it taking place?

SETA Apprenticeship Centre,
First Avenue, Millbrook,
Southampton, SO15 0LJ

REGISTER ONLINE:



<https://www.setatraining.co.uk/seta/events-recruitment-clinic.html>

www.seta-training.co.uk info@seta-training.co.uk



Supporting Tomorrow's Engineers





Apprenticeships

John Robinson Butchers are looking for a butcher's apprentice.

Please contact them if you know anyone that might be interested



IN



IN



Room 63!!

Room 63!!



Come, watch and judge the songs
for the
Eurovision Song Contest 2024!!!



Bring your
lunch!

Thursday 9th May
Lunchtime



Father's Day Fun Cycle - Rotary Event

We are raising money for Local Charities and more importantly we have offered every school and Charity the chance of raising money for themselves. It would be very helpful if you could get all your families to come and ride in the afternoon as a Family Afternoon event for Father's Day.

What a great time to get everybody together and just have fun as a family.



FAMILY FUN CYCLE AROUND THE CIRCUIT
Bring the whole family and cycle the wrong way around the circuit
What a great way to have **Father's Day 16 June** with the family start 12.30pm end 5.00pm

Price just £10 per whole family
Where else can you cycle in a safe on-road area with NO Traffic



CYCLE THRUXTON

THE ROTARY CLUB OF ANDOVER Christopher.lynn36@gmail.com 01264 396511 to book now
Hot and cold drinks available as well as Hot Dogs etc



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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

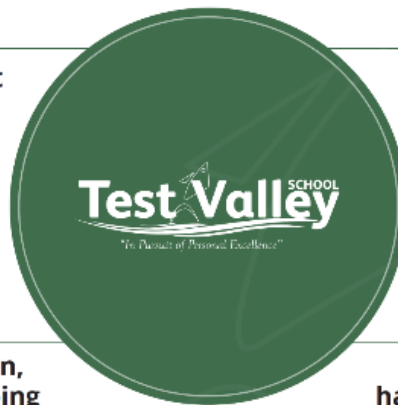
We show courage by not giving in, challenging ourselves, stepping out of our comfort zones and not fearing failure.

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.