

## Parent Newsletter

Friday 10 March 2023

It was wonderful to meet so many of you at our Year 9 event last night. Our school hall was full of pupils, parents, and carers. There was a positive 'buzz'. The speech given by our Head Boy and Girl was truly outstanding and they perfectly captured the importance of making 'informed choices'. My sincere thanks to Lilly and Angus. As well as to our staff and all the pupils who supported.



We had our new Head of School, Ms Goodridge and new SENCO Ms Andrews, in school yesterday. Below is a message from Ms Goodridge:

From Ms Goodridge:

It was an absolute privilege spending the day at Test Valley on Thursday. Students and staff made me feel very welcome, it was lovely to see so many familiar faces. I also attended the Year 9 Options evening on Thursday, the event was very well attended, and it was good to meet so many families.

I spent the day visiting lessons and talking to as many students and staff as possible, overall I saw strong learning habits and positive attitudes to learning. Students were actively engaged and eager to learn!

Afterschool I popped out to watch our Under 16 football team play Rookwood; this was a mixed gender team who showed fantastic cohesion, sportsmanship, and skill. They did themselves and Test Valley proud by winning 12-2! What a victory! Well done to all involved.

Spending the day at Test Valley has really whetted my appetite, I am counting down the days until I start full time after the Easter holidays. I very much look forward to meeting more of you next Thursday at the parents and carers event.

Have a lovely weekend.

Nicky Goodridge

Our first evening of our post OFSTED Q and A is next Thursday 5.30-6.30pm and I hope you will be able to join myself, Ms Goodridge and the team.

Best Wishes,  
Mrs McKeown

#### Forthcoming Dates:

Tuesday 14 March – Yr. 9 Parents' Consultation Evening  
Thursday 16 March – School Improvement Plan Q&A Session  
Wednesday 22 March – Grandstand Photographs  
Tuesday 28 March – School Improvement Plan Q&A Session  
Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 March – School Production  
Friday 31 March – INSET Day

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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Cara Rees  
School Business Manager  
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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](mailto:leisure@testvalley.hants.sch.uk) for all enquiries.

## Exam Invigilators

We are seeking a number of examination invigilators to support our Exams Officer. You will be working on a casual basis during the exam seasons from May-June, plus November and January. Successful candidates will be responsible for ensuring that exams are conducted in accordance with established procedures and regulations, including supervising students during exams, distributing and collecting exam papers and materials, and reporting any irregularities or issues to the appropriate authorities.

This role welcomes candidates from any sector or experience and is a great opportunity to work in a rewarding and flexible role, and to play a key part in supporting the academic achievements of our students. Full training will be given.

If you are interested in this position, please apply today ([recruitment@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@testvalley.hants.sch.uk)) with your CV and a covering letter explaining your suitability for the role.

## INSET Days

Friday 31 March

Friday 23 June

## School Improvement Q&A Sessions

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers into school to hear about our school improvement plan from Mrs McKeown and Mrs Goodridge. There will be two opportunities to meet, namely **Thursday 16 and Tuesday 28 March**. Further information will be sent out in due course.

## RESCHEDULED Year 7 Parents Consultation Evening

Following the postponement of the year 7 Parents Consultation evening on 2 March, this has now been rescheduled for **Thursday 20 April** in the school hall. More details will follow nearer the time.

## General Equipment Requirements

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.

## KS3 & KS4

### Shoutouts to our top points earners

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Rosie C	Mia S	Rosie W	Jack F	Ruby A
Riley S	Bryn B	Evie K	Sam J	Elliott HS
Michelle A	Lucy F	Sravana AP	Keysha M	Grace B
Alife W	Leon D	Oliver LC	Elizabeth F	Oliver H
William G	Grace M	Taylor C	Adam L	Henry A
Victoria S	Julita C	Angela M		
	Libby S	Bethany H		
	Sienna P			

## Year 9 Futures Programme

Please see below the plans for our futures programmes for our Year 9 pupils. There has been a change to some previous published dates, so please check carefully.

### [Test Valley School - Year 9 Options](#)

## Year 9 Futures Programme 2023

In preparation for Year 9 options the following programme of activities are taking place in school over the next five school weeks.

Date	Tutor	location	Time	Activity	Details
Wednesday 8 February	Centaur	Tutor room	08.50 – 09.25	Interactive apprenticeship workshop	Our independent careers advisor, Jane Belbin, will deliver workshops to each tutor group in turn with a view to raising awareness of apprenticeships.
Wednesday 8 February	Phoenix	IT room	08.50 – 09.25	Careers profiling	This is a tutor led activity, using the National Careers Service website to carry out careers profiling and exploration.
Wednesday 22 February	All	Hall	08.50 – 09.25	University presentation	Alix Hickman from Winchester university presents to Year 9 opportunities beyond college.
Wednesday 1 March	Phoenix	Tutor room	08.50 – 09.25	Interactive apprenticeship workshop	Our independent careers advisor, Jane Belbin, will deliver workshops to each tutor group in turn with a view to raising awareness of apprenticeships.
Wednesday 1 March	Griffin	IT room	08.50 – 09.25	Careers profiling	This is a tutor led activity, using the National Careers Service website to carry out careers profiling and exploration.
Tuesday 7 March	All	Hall	08.50 – 09.25	Post 16 college opportunities	Representatives from our feeder college, Andover, will present to KS3 pupils to enlighten them about opportunities and college life post 16.
Wednesday 8 March	Griffin	Tutor room	08.50 – 09.25	Interactive apprenticeship workshop	Our independent careers advisor, Jane Belbin, will deliver workshops to each tutor group in turn with a view to raising awareness of apprenticeships.
Wednesday 8 March	Centaur	IT room	08.50 – 09.25	Careers profiling	This is a tutor led activity, using the National Careers Service website to carry out careers profiling and exploration.
Thursday 9 March	All	Tutor room	08.50 – 09.25	Option booklet exploration	During tutor time pupils will have the opportunity to browse through our options booklet and explore the details of all the courses on offer at KS4.
Thursday 9 March	All	Main block	18.00 – 19.30	Y9 Curriculum Parents' Evening	This is a showcase evening for Year 9 parents and pupils. More details of the event will follow, but the evening will comprise of presentations and an options fair in the hall where parents and pupils can talk to staff and pupil ambassadors about subjects they are interested in.
Friday 10 March	All	Computer rooms	08.50 – 09.25	Straw poll, PV and careers portfolio	Pupils will use IT facilities to access Microsoft forms assignments to complete a straw poll to give the school an indication of initial option selections. The pupil voice is used to gather career thinking and identify where career advice can be targeted. The portfolio helps pupils to collect their careers planning into one document and assist with identify further careers advice targeted support.
Tuesday 14 March	N/A	hall	16.00 – 19.00	Y9 Parents' Consultation Evening	This will be an appointment based, face to face parents' consultation evening offering parents the opportunity to talk with their class teachers about their child's progress within each subject.

## Message from Mrs Knight

Mrs Knight is happy to announce the safe arrival of Verity Cleo-Yates Knight, born Tuesday 7th March at 11:22 pm weighing 3.25 kilos. Both are doing well!

## Art

Year 7 has been creating beautiful clay tiles with Zentangle patterns and cross-hatching techniques, next week they will decorate them with glitter and beads.

Year 8 has been drawing and shading from observation - real Jammie Dodger cookies in 3D! They are so realistic. Next week we have a new model: a giant Chuppa Chupps is coming!

Year 9 has been sewing animals' heads and shapes, they also used a sewing machine and learned practical skills that are essential in life.

Year 10 are currently working on their sketchbooks and various themes and compilations (Mirrors, birds, contrast, dwellings)

Year 11 are currently working on their sketchbooks and analysing how their work corresponds with the assessment objectives. They are motivated to work very hard to get the best results!

## Stitch-A-Logo

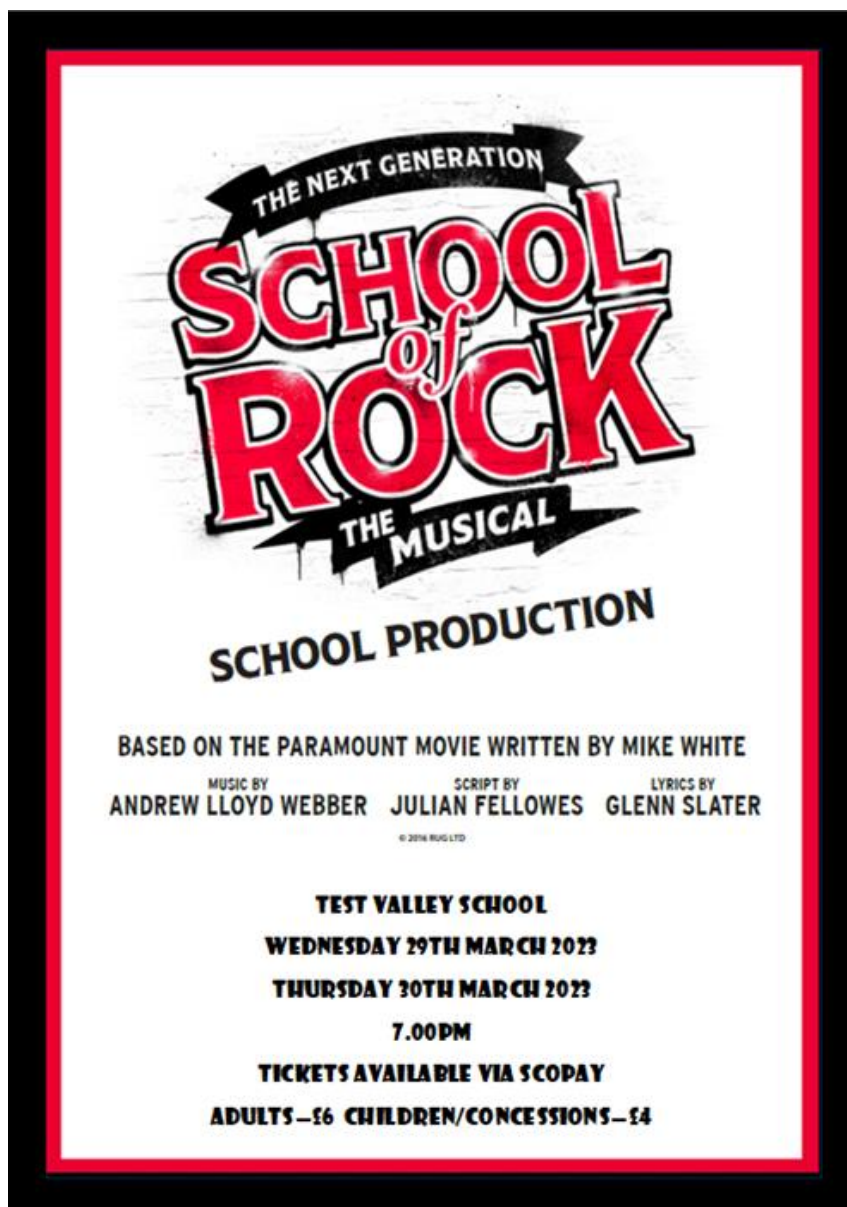
Stitch-a-Logo Ltd are offering a 10% discount in store only for parents/guardians looking to buy school uniform for all schools we supply.

The offer of 10% off will be available **IN STORE ONLY** from March 6<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.

This information can be viewed via the rolling banner on our website, in addition we are publishing it through the local social media sites.

## School Production

We are really excited to let you know that this year's school production is **School of Rock!** Pupils are working really hard on the production and cannot wait to show our school community. Information is below and tickets will be available to purchase via Scoday only.



**THE NEXT GENERATION**  
**SCHOOL of ROCK**  
**THE MUSICAL**  
**SCHOOL PRODUCTION**

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE

MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER      SCRIPT BY JULIAN FELLOWES      LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER

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**TEST VALLEY SCHOOL**  
**WEDNESDAY 29TH MARCH 2023**  
**THURSDAY 30TH MARCH 2023**  
**7.00PM**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA SCODAY**  
**ADULTS –£6 CHILDREN/CONCESSIONS –£4**

# HOW TO REVISE

## Year 11 Workshops

With mock exams out of the way it is time for the big preparation drive towards the GCSE examinations. In addition to the classroom preparations, lunchtime and after school workshops, immediately after half term during Monday tutor times we will be running workshops in the school hall for Year 11 pupils. The details of these are shown below.

Date	Time	Location	Topic	Delivered by
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	08.55 to 09.25	Hall	The basics, the place, the resources, and the techniques	Mr <a href="#">Langdown</a>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	08.55 to 09.25	Hall	How to use past exam papers to revise	Mr <a href="#">Langdown</a>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	08.55 to 09.25	Hall	The tailored revision planner	Mr <a href="#">Langdown</a>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	08.55 to 09.25	Hall	Maximising your revision techniques with English	Miss Barton
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	08.55 to 09.25	Hall	Maximising your revision techniques with Mathematics	Mr Whatley
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	08.55 to 09.25	Hall	Maximising your revision techniques with science	Mrs White

[Test Valley School - Yr 11 Exam Information](#)

## Hampshire County Council Comms

Message from Hampshire County Council:

Passenger assistants (school escorts) play a key role in enabling children with special educational needs to attend school. We collect children and escort them safely all the way to school and back again, by taxi or minibus.

It isn't just about getting the children from A to B. School escorts use their people skills to engage with children and reassure parents and carers too. We provide a supportive working environment and we'll give you all the formal training needed. It's having a natural ability to make people smile that will make every journey amazing.

No formal qualifications are needed, just a natural rapport with children and young people, alongside an awareness and understanding of special educational needs.

Being a passenger assistant is a paid role and is term time only. Hours are generally 7.30–9.30am and 2.30–4.30pm. The rest of the day is yours. [Find out more](#) and [apply today](#).

## Health and Wellbeing



**G BIG DEAL?**

### GAMBLING HARM PREVENTION WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**IS GAMBLING A BIG DEAL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?**

- 11% had spent their own money on a gambling activity in the past 7 days (PSOS Mori 2019)
- The financial, social and wellbeing impacts of gambling are a major safeguarding concern for young people.

**WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?**

- GamCare offers FREE one-hour interactive awareness workshops for young people aged 11-19, delivered by our highly skilled Education and Training Leads.
- Workshops are ideal for school lessons, assemblies, and other types of youth-focused sessions.

**WHAT DO OUR WORKSHOPS OFFER?**

- Young people will gain knowledge and awareness in order to make informed choices about gambling.
- Young people will understand the impact of harmful gambling, and recognise the signs of gambling-related harm in themselves or others.
- Young people will know where and how to access support if they are experiencing gambling-related harm.

**BOOK YOUR WORKSHOP NOW!**  
Contact your local Education and Training Lead now to arrange your free workshop:  
Rebecca.Hawke@gamcare.org.uk

bigdeal.org.uk



**G BIG DEAL?**

### DO YOU WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?

- GamCare is the leading provider of information, advice and support for anyone affected by gambling-related harm.
- Gambling-related harm has significant safeguarding and wellbeing implications for young people.
- We offer FREE training sessions for professionals working with young people, delivered by our Education and Training Leads:

  - Increase your awareness of how young people are affected by gambling, online gaming, advertising, and social media.
  - See how gambling can move from being a social activity to causing significant harm.
  - Find out how to identify gambling-related harm, and how it impacts young people.
  - Increase your confidence so you can support young people who are experiencing gambling-related harm.

**REGISTER FOR FREE, CPD ACCREDITED TRAINING IN YOUR AREA!**

Read more about the [Young People's Gambling Harm Prevention Programme](#)

**NEED MORE INFORMATION?**  
Get in touch with your local Education and Training Lead:  
Rebecca.Hawke@gamcare.org.uk

**GamCare**  
Gambling Support Starts Here

In partnership with:

Am recovery for all, Aquarius, BCT, and other logos.

bigdeal.org.uk

## College Open Events

Please see our website for the latest information on College open events with information on how to book a place.

[Test Valley School - College Open Events 2022-23](#)

## SETA Engineering Apprenticeships

[Test Valley School - SETA Engineering Apprenticeships](#)

## Extra Curricular Activities – Spring 2023

Time	Venue	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Before School 0830-0850</b>	Library			Drop in Session with Mrs Whitehead (All)	Drop in session with Mrs Whitehead (All)	Drop in session with Mrs Whitehead (All)	
<b>Lunchtime</b>	Rm 40		Keyboard Club and Band Practice (All)				
	Rm 1			Coding Club			
	Drama	School Production Rehearsals				School Production Rehearsals	
	Rm 21	Geography Club (All)					
	Library					Drop in session with Mrs Whitehead (All)	Drop in session with Mrs Whitehead (All)
	Library	-		Quiet Reading and Research (All)	Quiet Reading and Research (All)	Quiet Reading and Research (All)	-
	Sports Hall	Mixed Basketball (Yr 7 & 8)			All years mixed Trampolining & Badminton	Football (Yr 10 & 11)	Yr 9, 10 & 11 mixed Basketball
	Mr Page's Office	Take Hope for a walk	Take Hope for a walk	Take Hope for a walk	Take Hope for a walk	Take Hope for a walk	
	Various special activities taking place at lunchtime in the Modern Foreign Languages Block during the term						
	<b>After School</b>	Drama		Staff Meetings	School Production Rehearsals		
Sports Hall	Yr7 Mixed Football (hall/field)		All Years Netball		Yr 8 & 9 Mixed Football		
Rm 1	Homework and Revision Support (All)		Homework and Revision Support (All)	Homework and Revision Support (All)	Homework and Revision Support (All)		



## **Ethos, Values and Vision**

**Ethos – (characteristic spirit of a community):**  
“In Pursuit of **Personal** Excellence”

### **Values**

- Readiness to learn
- Respect for self and others
- Individual responsibility
- Determination and Ambition
- Enjoyment through belonging

**Vision – To develop Test Valley as a small, rural, high achieving school**