

Parent Newsletter

Friday 26 May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you're all well.

I can't believe we've arrived at the end of Summer 1 already; the last six weeks have flown by; it's been an absolute privilege working with your children.

We've had a very busy week indeed, our Year 11 students continue to show determination and courage as they tackle their GCSE exams, I know they'll continue to work hard in the holidays but do hope they look after their mental health and enjoy their leisure time too.

As you know we were visited by Ofsted on Tuesday and Wednesday for a section 8 ungraded monitoring visit. This is a normal part of the Ofsted monitoring process for schools after receiving a Grade 4. It was a valuable experience; we will share the outcomes with you once they arrive in a few weeks. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who completed the parent survey and for those who sent in additional letters of support, these meant so very much to us, thank you. Our visitors saw us working as a team on the days they visited and ensured they spoke to lots of our pupils.

Mrs Collins has led assemblies this week focusing on being 'Ready, Responsible and Safe'. After half term we will be launching our student tracker booklets, students will be meeting with their tutors regularly to review their attendance, positive and negative points. Further details can be found below.

We regularly hold student voice sessions and will do even more in the future. Some of our younger students told us they didn't like using the toilets with the older students, we will be opening the MFL toilets just for KS3 after half term. KS4 will continue to use the main block toilets. Students have also asked if they can have fruit at breakfast club, this will be free for all after half term along with toast and juice thanks to donations from our wonderful PTA.

I hope you all have a good break; we look forward to welcoming everyone back on June 5th.

Warm wishes
Nicky Goodridge

Forthcoming Dates:

Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June – Half Term Break
Monday 5 June – HPV2 Vaccinations (yr9 boys & girls and catch up)
Friday 9 June – Year 8 Sparsholt College Futures 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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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.

Remaining INSET Day

Friday 23 June

Food Standards Agency

Following a visit from Test Valley Borough Council we are delighted to report we have retained our Food Hygiene Rating of 5. Thank you to everyone involved in maintaining this high standard.

Year 10 Non-Core Exams

Following a successful round of exams in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, we feel that our Year 10 pupils would benefit from further practice of exams in more formal surroundings. Therefore we will hold the remaining non-core exams for the optional subjects being studied, in the exam rooms rather than in classrooms. These exams will take place after the GCSE exams being taken by our Year 11 pupils, on 21 and 22 June. A timetable will be published shortly.

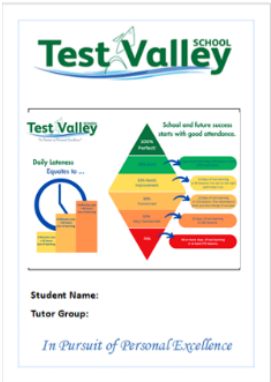
HPV Vaccinations

A reminder to parents/carers that the School Age Immunisation team will be in School on Monday 5 June to administer the HPV2 immunisations (first day back after half term). This is for Year 9 pupils and those who have missed out previously (some year 8s and 10s). Pupils should wear short sleeves, if they don't have short sleeved shirts then they should bring their PE T-shirts.

Behaviour Update

The majority of our pupils have made a real effort this half term to be punctual, work hard and treat each other with respect; we are beginning to notice a positive difference in the atmosphere around school. Unfortunately, we still have a small number of pupils who are either persistently late to lesson or who are internal absconding and missing lessons completely. This is worrying to us as our primary responsibility is to keep pupils safe.

To tackle this issue, on Monday 5th June the pupils will begin to carry a Test Valley Tracker. The purpose of the tracker is two-fold: firstly, every time a pupil leaves a lesson their teacher will need to sign the tracker to indicate the pupil has permission to leave, and then re-sign the tracker when they return. This will make visible who is or is not where they need to be. The second purpose of the tracker is for pupils to work with their tutors to fill in, on a weekly basis, their attendance percentage and positive and negative behaviour points for the week prior. Again, we want to make visible to the pupils how they are progressing in these areas.



Test Valley SCHOOL

School and home success starts with good attendance.

Daily Success Equals to ...

Student Name:
Tutor Group:

In Pursuit of Personal Excellence

Date	Attendance	Lates	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points

Date	Subject	Staff Code	Reason	Time Out	Time Back

Please do ask your child to see their tracker. It will be great to see improvements over time and motivating for our pupils. We will be awarding positive points for regular high attendance and positive points totals. To support the rewards, our newly appointed Student Leaders are going to focus on creating a better reward system that the pupils are more excited by.

Watch this space for future news on this.

In addition to the Trackers, the Senior Management Team will mentor those pupils who are internally absconding. The pupils will meet every fortnight with their mentor, discuss the reasons for truanting and set targets to stop this happening. The sanctions in place for continuing to internally abscond will be loss of break times, an extended day in our isolation space, the Learning Zone (until 4.30pm, with pupils being brought home on the mini-bus, if they cannot be collected), and the addition of evening school for those who still truant (time of learning 3-5pm, and again brought home on the mini-bus, if necessary).

We want all our pupils to understand how important every moment of their learning is and help them hold high expectations of themselves. As with all of our systems, we will evaluate the initiative regularly and seek opinions from the pupils, adjusting where necessary.

Year 11 Extra English Revision

On Friday 2nd June, the last day of half term, Mrs Collins will run an additional English Language revision session in preparation for the Paper 1, Language exam on Monday 5th June. The session will be held in the ROSLA building from 10.30am – 12.30pm. Please come along for some extra practise and last minute tips.

Shoutouts to our top points earners

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Kathryn V	Livvy S	Taylor C	Oliwier D	Megan M
Ted J	Evie H	Bethany H	Sam J	Ruby A
Ethan E	Lucy F	Emily W	Jack F	Henry A
Henry B	Matilda L	Niya G	Lili Penelope R	Charlotte F
Liqi L	Julita C	Megan R	Courtney M	Ty F
		Evie K		

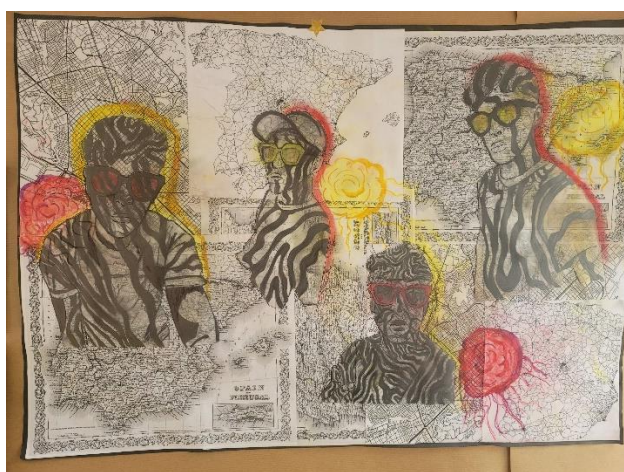
Reading & Year 10 Literature Text

As a gentle reminder, all Key Stage 3 pupils are expected to have a personal reading book on them every day. The pupils have the opportunity to use the library and exchange library books once a fortnight in lessons and during their breaks. All your children know they should be reading for 20 minutes a day to help their vocabulary to develop.

After the holiday, year 10 will study their next Literature set text: *An Inspector Calls* by J. B. Priestley. If possible, please can you purchase a copy of the text? It does not have to be a brand new one, it just needs to be clean enough to make notes on. This [\[link\]](#) will take you to the cheapest version on Amazon. If you have concerns about being able to purchase a copy of the book, please do let the school know.

Art

Please see some of year 11's final exam pieces. The whole exhibition will be available after the half-term





Science

NATURE NEEDS YOU!

During the second part of the summer term, KS3 pupils will be taking part in a project to learn about local biodiversity and the threats to it. We will then hope to continue the project over the next few years by making improvements to our school site, led by pupil ideas, to encourage all things wild, wonderful, bright and beautiful to make Test Valley their home.

The first part of the topic will involve pupils doing fieldwork on the school site to analyse and categorise what lives here already and that is where you could help us out.

Do you have any of the following that you would be willing to lend or donate to the school;

- a wildlife capture camera
- moth or other insect trap (for living insects)
- plant, insect, mammal or bird identification books or guides for the local area.

If you have anything else (including your own expertise if you have it!) that you think could be helpful to us then please email me, Mrs White - whites@testvalley.hants.sch.uk

Duke of Edinburgh Award

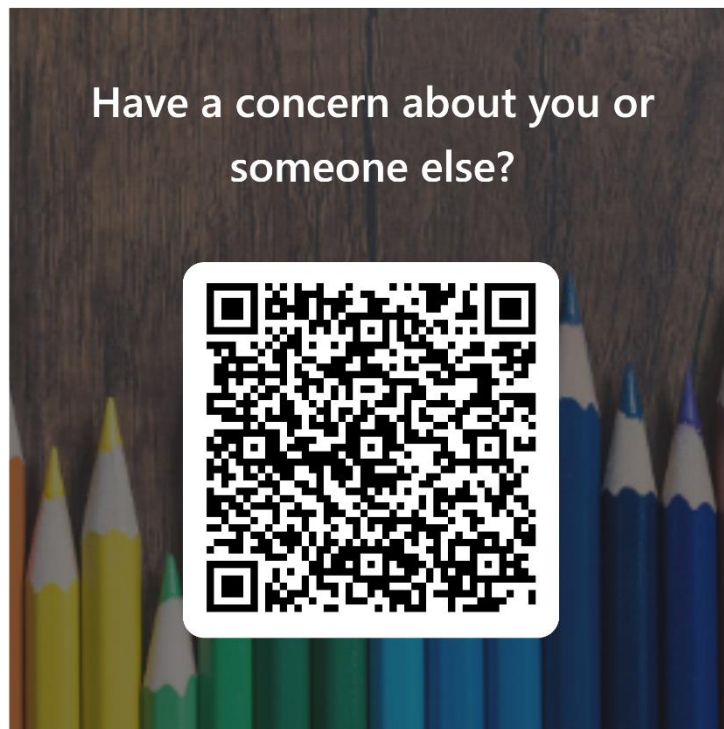
Year 9 pupils have the opportunity to sign up to the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. To secure a place this year, complete the application form contained within the linked letter and send to Simon Mason at Andover Baptist church.

A parent and candidate information evening will be held at Andover Baptist Church on Thursday 15th June at 7.30.

The school supports the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Mr Langdown is the school's coordinator for this if you have any further enquiries.

[Test Valley School - Duke of Edinburgh's Awards](#)

Pupil Anonymous Reporting Function



GCSE Summer Exam Timetable

Please use the below link to access timetable information for the summer GCSE exams

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

SETA Engineering Apprenticeships

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

Health and Wellbeing

Please see our website for more useful information: [Test Valley School - Wellbeing](#)

College Open Events

Sparsholt College Open event

We are excited to welcome students on to campus for our Open Event on **Thursday 15 June, (time at college depends on the time of the tour booked)**. Students can take a look around the college campus and explore our incredible resources on subject-specific tours! The tours will last roughly 45 minutes and your students will be shown around the facilities for their course area and meet our expert teaching teams. They will also have an opportunity to meet our friendly students and find out about all the things

they need to support them in their studies such as transport, funding, careers, learning support and accommodation as well as Industry Placements.

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 for year 11s 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](#).

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

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](#)

STEM MILITARY VILLAGE OPEN DAY



This year, The Royal Logistic Corps will be celebrating 30 years since its formation with an Open Day at Worthy Down, Winchester which is open to members of the public.

The day will include a Military Village highlighting how our soldiers apply Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in their roles.

A number of the Corps' technical trades will be present to provide engaging and informative stands including Ammunition Technicians showcasing the safe disposal of WWII bombs and Air Despatchers displaying future Virtual Reality technology.

The event will take you through a journey of the Corps, from technology used in the past to emerging technology currently in development to support the future Army. With a variety of trades and technology on display, there is something for everyone to engage with and learn from. Our soldiers will be happy to explain how the Army has developed their STEM skills and just how important STEM is in today's world.

Entrance will be by ticket only (free) and more information can be found in the QR code below.

1 June 2023, 1:00pm - 6:00pm
RLC Museum, Worthy Down



Scan the QR code to register your attendance at RLC 30 events

For updates on RLC 30 events visit:
www.royallogisticcorps.co.uk

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

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.

Excellence

We are relentlessly determined to strive for the best in all we do; developing excellent learning habits which help us to grow.



Resilience

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

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.