

Parent Newsletter

Thursday 29 June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Strike Action

The NEU are planning two further days of industrial action on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July. It is possible that negotiations between the union and the government may avoid this action, however, we need to plan for it.

On Wednesday 5th July school will be open to Year 10 students only and on Friday 7th July to Year 9 only.

We have decided to prioritise Year 10 because they are in the middle of their GCSEs, with only 34 school weeks left until their final exams, it's crucial they are in school for face to face lessons. Year 9s have also been prioritised as they are about to embark on their GCSEs.

On both days students who aren't in school will be set work on Microsoft Teams, unless their teacher is striking. This will also be visible on ClassCharts should students not be able to access Teams.

We may be able to offer provision for a small number of students from other year groups if absolutely essential, either because a child is vulnerable or because the parent and carers job is categorised as 'critical'. Please email us at office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk by Monday 3rd July 3:30pm if you would like your child to attend at the latest. If your child is entitled to free school meals, they can collect this from the school canteen during break time.

We've had another busy week in school, a highlight was welcoming our new students who will be joining us in September. Tuesday was induction day, students all came together for breakfast, met their tutors, attended a range of lessons and got to know each other. It was lovely to see so many happy faces at the end of the day. On Wednesday evening we welcomed our new Year 7s back, along with their parents and carers, there was a lovely feel to the evening, I'd like to thank our awesome Transition Buddies and Senior Prefects for helping out on the evening, along with our Year 11 band, 'Out of the Valley' who performed a few songs for us, they were brilliant!

Key Stage 3 started the week with a bang! They all took part in RE workshops to debate the relevance of faith in the 21st Century. We were incredibly lucky to have three external presenters, two of whom were 'Rappers', the students enjoyed this immersive and engaging experience.

A group of avid readers attended the Hampshire Book Awards on Thursday, I'm told our students were very vocal and shone when they were asked to debate the books with students from all over Hampshire, go #TeamTV!

Raising aspirations has been at the heart of our assemblies and trips this week, we've had a number of guest speakers into explain post 16 pathways, along with a group of students visiting Peter Symmonds College for their taster days. Year 10 were truly inspired when they returned. Thanks to Mr Langdown for providing so many opportunities for our young people.

I've just been up to the top field to watch our students taking part in the 'Colour Fun Run'. As I write I can still hear lots of laughing and cheering from our students taking part, it's music to my ears! This is a first for Test Valley, it has been lovely to see so many students celebrating diversity as PRIDE month draws to an end.

Wishing you all a great weekend

Warm wishes

Nicky

Forthcoming Dates:

Thursday 29 June – Italy Trip Information Evening
Tuesday 4 July - Year 10 Taster Day, Andover College
Tuesday 4 July – Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening
Tuesday 11 July – Sports Day

Jo McKeown
Executive Headteacher
j.mckeown@hispmat.org

Nicky Goodridge
Head of School
goodridgen@testvalley.hants.sch.

Cara Rees
School Business Manager
reesc@testvalley.hants.sch.uk

Andrew Page
Deputy Headteacher
pagea@testvalley.hants.sch.

Anna Collins
Deputy Headteacher
collinsa@testvalley.hants.sch.u

Emma Andrews
SENDCO & Assistant Headteacher
andrewse@testvalley.hants.sch.uk

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.

Water Bottles

Please could you ensure that your child/ren bring a reusable, named water bottle into school which can be filled up at water fountains during the day.

Hildon Limited



We are extremely grateful to Hildon Limited who have generously supplied the school with additional drinking water for our pupils this week.

We are part of a wonderful community, thank you!

Test Valley Prom 2023

Parents and families filled the space of our lower carpark on the evening of Friday 23rd June 2023 as our prom got underway.

The arrival ceremony reminds me of an old style carnival. You are never sure what is going to come along next. An array of stylish cars, fast cars, noisy cars and classic cars filled with smartly dressed teams making their entry. Motorbike pillions, Land Rovers and a pickup truck full with a friendship group. A stockcar was unusual, an ice cream van playing its bells, I've never seen either at a prom before. Two boys sitting on a sofa, under a sun-shade, kitted out with an equipped cocktail table was very amusing.

The rural dimension is always represented by a few well polished tractors, and this year didn't disappoint. A first for me though, was a huge combine harvester.

Our attention was turned, near the end of the arrival ceremony by a James Bond style entry from behind a tree across the back field. Up came a helicopter blowing the tree as it rose over the top and landed on our lower field.

Having an on-site pizza oven preparing and cooking fresh pizzas was a real treat.

Thanks to:

- Mr Windibank for making the balloon arch discs to hold the balloons.
- Darren Allsopp for all his support setting up.
- Ruby, Lucy, Henry, Ryan and Will for setting up. Lots of blowing up of balloons 🎈 and decorating.
- Glen Richardson for his photographic skills.
- Mrs Lynn for live streaming the arrival.
- Paul for his DJ skills, great talent on the discs.
- Gretta Lovell for helping with the set up and supplying a large ice box and ice for the canned drinks last minute.
- Joe Lovell for suppling the bales.
- Mrs Robinson for the amazing flowers
- Trevor Johnson and team for the marquee.
- All the staff who supported on the evening, supervised and helped clear.
- The office team who have helped with all the administration and communication.
- All the parents, family and friends who supported the amazing arrival ceremony.

A perfect evening in a beautiful setting at Test Valley School.

Congratulations to all Year 11 for your time at Test Valley School and your efforts with your exams.

Onwards and upwards to a brilliant future. Do come back and share your future achievements.
Mr Langdown

KS3 and KS4

Shoutouts to our top  points earners w/c 26 June

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Liqi L	Julita C	Cain F	Mollie S
Rosie C	Annabel A	Taylor C	Keysha M
Megan M	Zoe B	Bethany H	Jack F
Mia H	Harvey J	CP P	Eleanor V
Alfie W	Flora R	Luca V	Milly P-B

Art

REMINDER: Could pupils in years 7, 8 & 9 please collect their clay work from the Art Room by **Friday 30 June**. After this date items will be disposed.

Plea for Comics

If anyone has any comics that they no longer require, please could you send them in to me. I am particularly interested in those around Superheroes (Marvel). Many thanks, Mrs Whitehead

T H White Group


We were delighted to welcome T H White Group into school this morning for a Year 9 and 10 assembly. The tractor on the tennis courts was a real talking point. Although it took a few attempts to get it through the gates! They brought a gift for all our pupils. Lovely to see Joe (an ex pupil) doing so well.





Pupil Anonymous Reporting Function

Have a concern about you or someone else?

A QR code is centered on a dark wood-grain background. Below the QR code, several colored pencils (yellow, green, blue) are visible, slightly out of focus. The QR code is enclosed in a white rounded square border.

SETA Engineering Apprenticeships

Engineering Apprenticeship Recruitment Clinics



SETA will be running 3 Engineering Apprenticeship Recruitment Clinics available to young people from Yr 11 and above, and their parents, to drop in to SETA to discuss the current apprenticeship vacancies, what the roles involve and to get guidance on writing a great application. **No need to book – just turn up!**

These will be taking place on the following dates:

- Thurs 29th June
- Thurs 6th July
- Thurs 13th July

Time: 5.30-6.30pm

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

Cost: Free!

ENGINEERING APPRENTICESHIP RECRUITMENT CLINIC

Thurs 29th June 5.30-6.30pm
 Thurs 6th July
 Thurs 13th July

No need to book - just drop in

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

Supporting Tomorrow's Engineers

Test Valley School – SETA Engineering Apprenticeships

Health and Wellbeing

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

Community News

Free Summer Family Fun Days



Are you looking for something to do during the summer holidays?

Come join the Unity Youth team for games, crafts, and activities!

To book your space please email:

sarah.gisbourne@unityonline.org.uk



15th Aug
10.00-13.00



WHERE?

Picket Piece Village Hall
 Walworth Rd
 Picket Piece
 Andover
 SP11 6LY

CONTACT US:

☎ 03304 004 116
 ✉ info@Unityonline.org.uk

Bus Station, West Street, Andover
 SP10 1QP

www.unityonline.org.uk
 Registered Charity no: 1061655

Free Summer Family Fun Days



Are you looking for something to do during the summer holidays?

Come join the Unity Youth team for games, crafts, and activities!

To book your space please email:

sarah.gisbourne@unityonline.org.uk



22nd Aug
10.00-13.00



WHERE?

Augusta Park Community Centre
 East Anton Farm Road
 Andover
 SP11 6RD

CONTACT US:

☎ 03304 004 116
 ✉ info@Unityonline.org.uk

Bus Station, West Street, Andover
 SP10 1QP

www.unityonline.org.uk
 Registered Charity no: 1061655

Summer Fun

Every Weds in August
11:00am to 2:00pm

King Arthurs Way Hall, Andover

Free fun activities each week including outdoor fun, crafts, cooking, storytelling and gardening.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

unity FOR THE COMMUNITY

Test Valley Hampshire Borough Council Isle of Wight

Free Summer Family Fun Days



Are you looking for something to do during the summer holidays?

Come join the Unity Youth team for games, crafts, and activities!

To book your space please email:

sarah.gisbourne@unityonline.org.uk



3rd Aug
10:00-13:00



WHERE?

Picket20 community Hall
Picket Twenty Way
Andover
SP11 6TY

CONTACT US:

☎ 03304 004 116

✉ info@unityonline.org.uk

Bus Station, West Street, Andover
SP10 1QP

www.unityonline.org.uk
Registered Charity no: 1061655

[Invitation to Join Andover New Street U-16 Girls Football Team!](#)



ANDOVER NEW STREET U16 GIRLS

Our U16 Girls team is currently looking for a Goalkeeper (other positions welcomed too) to join our team for the upcoming season. We have a friendly and enthusiastic bunch of girls and we play in the Hampshire Girls Youth Football league. We train on Fridays from 5.30-7pm at Harrow Way School.

If you are a girl aged 14-15 and are looking to join a girls only football team then drop me a message and you're more than welcome to come along to training.

Contact: Mark 07867613797

College Open Events

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

Open Evening on Wednesday 5th July from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Booking is not required to attend this event. There will be a welcome talk from Head of College, Mr Ben Hillier, at 5:30pm and then repeated at 6:30pm and all teachers and classrooms will be available on a drop-in basis throughout the evening.

More information can be found on our website: <https://www.salisbury6c.ac.uk/study-with-us/open-evenings/>

[Salisbury 6th Form College \(salisbury6c.ac.uk\)](https://www.salisbury6c.ac.uk)

Sparsholt College Open event: [Test Valley School - Sparsholt College](#)

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

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

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.