

Parent Newsletter

Friday 3 November 2023

Dear Parent and Carers

I hope you're all well and Storm Ciaran didn't cause too much disruption, some areas of our catchment weren't really affected but others experienced floods and fallen trees and debris. Our main concern was transporting the children home at the end of the day safely, it was very difficult to predict the extent of the damage the storm would cause.

Our first week of Autumn 2 has flown by, on the whole pupils have returned from the break refreshed and with a positive attitude to learning. We've had a number of visitors in school this week, each has commented on how warm and welcoming our community is and how relationships between staff and pupils are positive. I can really see and feel the culture shift at Test Valley as each month passes, we will continue to work our very hardest to embed our core values across the school.

We have had a staffing change in Art this week. Mr Johnson has been our main Art teacher since September. At the end of the last half term he was offered an opportunity of a lifetime in Africa teaching Art. It's with a heavy heart we had to say goodbye to Mr Johnson, we wish him well. However, we welcome Mrs Sophie Linsell to the Creative Arts faculty, we've been incredibly lucky to appoint during this national recruitment and retention crisis. Mrs Linsell is a very experienced Art teacher who will join Mrs Andrews and Mrs Ablett in Art on a permanent basis. She will also be training as an Assistant SENCO to increase the capacity of our SEND team.

It seems hard to believe exam season is upon us once again, our Year 11s have been working hard in preparation for their mock exams next week, I wish them all the best and encourage them to attend all the enhancement sessions during tutor time, at lunchtimes and afterschool.

Staying with the theme of enhancement, it has been lovely to see the number of opportunities beyond the classroom grow this term. We have a whole host of clubs now, something for everyone! Please encourage your children to make the most of these.

I was unable to deliver my KS4 Assembly on Thursday morning in order to prepare the pupils for our Lockdown practice on Friday morning. I now plan to deliver their assembly on Friday and hold the Lockdown practice on Monday afternoon. All pupils will be informed during our line-ups, we will ensure additional pastoral support is on hand to help those who need reassurance.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend when it comes.

Warm Wishes
Nicky Goodridge

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!

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.

Forthcoming Dates

w/c 6 November is Week 1 Timetable

- 6-10 November – Yr 11 Mock Exams
- 12 November – Remembrance Service, St Peter's Church
- 13 November – Kindness Day
- 17 November – Children in Need Day
- 23 November – Class of '23 Presentation Evening
- 29 November – Year 10 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening

Class of '23 Presentation Evening

We are really looking forward to welcoming back to school our class of '23 students for their Presentation Evening on Thursday 23 November. This is an opportunity for pupils to collect their GCSE Certificates and some additional special awards. Invitation letters have been sent out and students should follow the information in the letter to book their place at the event.

Year 7 Celebration Event – Thursday 19 October

Following the above event before half term, we would be grateful to receive feedback from Parents/Carers please. This will help our planning for future events. Please fill in the short form using the link below. Many thanks.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ysgitH4u5F>

Class Charts

As you may be aware, as a school, we have elected to use Class Charts as our main platform for communicating with you and sharing information about your children's progress and successes.

Class charts provides you with an instant and up to date report on your child's performance. You will be able to see lesson by lesson comments and reports from teachers. Class Charts is a virtual window into your child's lessons at Test Valley School.

In addition, we will soon have in place, a two-way messaging system which will allow you to communicate directly with your child's teacher.

If you have not yet, or are not regularly signing into Class Charts, you will be contacted by us over the next few weeks to ask you if we can provide any support with this and provide you with your parent access code.

In the meantime, please use this link to help you find out about how to use Class Charts -

https://pages.classcharts.com/wp-content/uploads/Class_Charts_for_parents_guide.pdf

Thank you for your support with making Class Charts an effective and positive tool for keeping us all connected.

Sally White (Director of STEM)

KS3 and KS4

Shoutouts to our top  points earners w/c 16 October

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Poppy P	Grace R	Alexis B	Oliver L-C	Mollie S
Tiger-Lily C	Jack W	Matilda L	Megan R	Keysha M
Lexi S-F	Mia H	Annabel A	Will W	Asha P
George S	Kathryn V	Livvy S	Samuel S	Eleanor V
Leo H	William G	Flora R	Ben W	Jack F

Yr 11 Mock Exams

Please see our website for the year 11 mock exam timetable. Mock exams commence on Monday 6 November 2023

[Test Valley School - Exams](#)

Art

Two of the Year 8 classes have been designing pumpkins this week:



PTA AGM

The AGM of the School PTA is taking place on Wednesday 8 November at 6pm in the conference room. All welcome especially those wishing to join our growing vibrant and enthusiastic team.

Exploitation, Gangs & Knife Crime Awareness



The Ben Kinsella Trust are pleased to release brand new dates of this popular UK wide online workshop!

Parenting children and young adults is hard, sometimes it can be scary and overwhelming with news stories and social media influencing how safe we feel our children are and the risks they may face in today's climate.

Join this FREE workshop on **Thursday 16th November & Thursday 23rd November (7pm-9pm)** on Zoom to learn more about what is regular teenager behaviour or what might be signs that a young person is being groomed or exploited.

Anyone can book on, whether you're a parent, carer, neighbour or professional who supports young people. Click on the link below to book a place.

[Parents & Carers workshops | The Ben Kinsella Trust](#)

benkinsella.org.uk

Inspiring Future Teachers

[Inspiring Future Teachers - HISP Teacher Training](#)



Extra Curricular PE Activities

The following activities are available for pupils to take part in, just turn up and have a go.

Day	2 nd Break 13.50 – 14.15	After School 15.20 – 16.30
Monday	Girls Basketball All years Sports hall - MT	Netball All years Sports hall – SD & KE
Tuesday		Indoor football Year 7 & 8 Sports hall – CF
Wednesday	Badminton Club All years Sports Hall - RB	Indoor football Year 9, 10 & 11 Sports hall - MT
Thursday	Boys Basketball All years Sports hall CF	(*Boxing Club All Years Gym) (TBC)
Friday	Dodgeball Club Years 7 & 8 Sports Hall - CF	Badminton All staff & pupils Sports Hall

* Payment for this activity will be required in advance.

Activities at 2nd break will require pupils to change into their PE shirt & trainers but they do not have to wear shorts, this is to reduce changing time.

After School Clubs – Autumn Term

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
School Production Rehearsals Room 42 (3.20pm-5pm) Commences w/c 16 Oct Mrs Brush	MFL Club (Room 62) Mr Wareham	STEM Club Mrs White	Creative Art Club (3.20-4.15pm) Mr Johnson	Badminton All staff & Pupils (Sports Hall)
Netball all year groups (3.30- 4.20pm) Sports Hall Mrs Dunn and Mrs Wray	Humanities Film/documentary Club (3.20-4.20pm) Ms Martin	Indoor football Yrs 9, 10 & 11 (Sports Hall) Mr Thomas	*Boxing Club All Years (Gym)	
Homework Club (3.20-4.20pm) Room 1 Mrs Ling	Indoor football Yrs 7 & 8 (Sports Hall) Mr Falkingham		Homework Club (3.20-4.20pm) Room 1 Mrs Ling	
	Homework Club (3.20-4.20pm) Room 1 Mrs Ling			

*Payment for this activity will be required in advance

College Open Events

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

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

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

The application window is now open and closes on Wednesday 31 January 2024

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

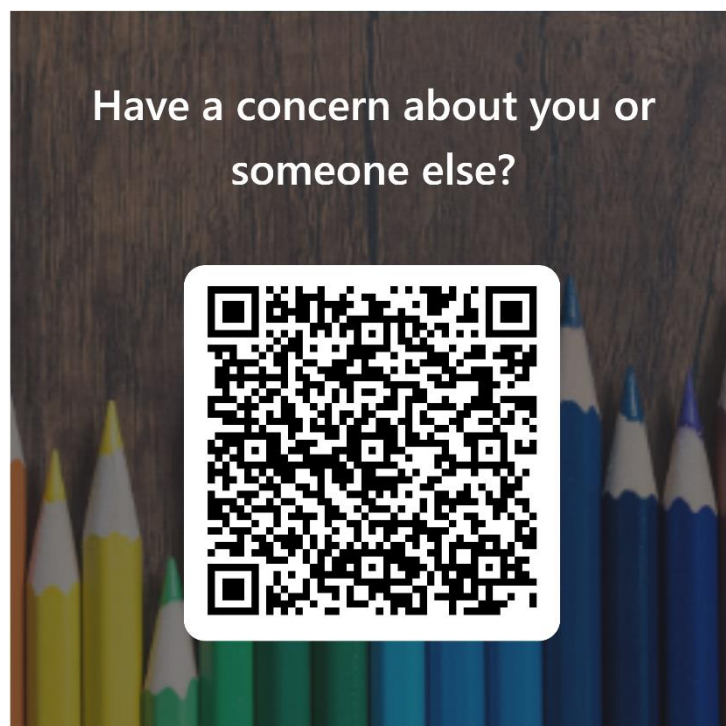
Recommended to apply by 31 December 2023

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

The application window for PSC is now open and closes on Monday 11 December 2023

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

Pupil Anonymous Reporting Function



Health and Wellbeing

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

World Mental Health Day

Last term we celebrated World Mental Health Day and supported Young Minds for Hello Yellow.

We did a mile walk around the field, boxercise, yoga, mindful colouring and a cake sale. We raised £98.03 for Young Minds

We are going to be raising the awareness of wellbeing support at Test Valley with the support of our Wellbeing ambassadors and our Pastoral Support Team over the coming year.

Community News

Anton Rotary
VARIETY SHOW

MAD MELODIES
ROCK CHOIR
THE QUEST BAND

Vocalists
MADDISON-A
RACHEL HART

SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
7PM - 10PM
ST MARY'S CHURCH

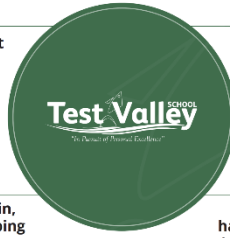
ADULTS: £15
FAMILY: £30
(2 ADULT + 2 CHILDREN UNDER 16)

TICKET PURCHASE LOCATIONS:
COUNTESS OF BRECKNOCK (9:30 - 15:30)
BEN'S DRY CLEANERS
LIGHTS THEATRE
ST MARY'S CHURCH (ON THE NIGHT)

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.