

## Parent Newsletter

Friday 8 December 2023

Dear Parent and Carers

As we approach the end of this winter term, I am writing to confirm arrangements for our last week at school.

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

- Christmas Jumper Day, normal school uniform must be worn along with the Christmas jumper e.g. trousers, skirts, school shoes. This is optional, pupils may wear their normal uniform if they wish.
- 1:30pm-2:20pm Christmas Lunch
- 2:20pm-3:20pm End of term show 'The Masked Teacher', we have a wealth of talent amongst our staff, this event promises to be highly entertaining!
- 7:00pm-8:30pm Carol Concert at St Peter's Church, Stockbridge

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

- Full school uniform should be worn.
- 11:50-12:50pm Celebration assembly for all year groups with school
- 12:50pm School closes for Christmas, buses have been contacted.

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 – Inset Day (change of dates)

As the term draws to a close, sadly, we have a number of staff leaving us. I'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the following members of staff for their commitment, hard work and care they've shown members of our TVS community: Mrs Thomsett, Mrs Remnant, Mr G Atkins and Mrs Peszkowski. I wish them all the best in their new schools and colleges, we will truly miss them all.

Due to these staffing changes and imbalances in some subject allocations, we will need to rewrite the school timetable. There is no change to the subjects your child will study, but in some cases, there may be a change in teacher. There will also be a few changes to the students in some of the teaching groups to balance the class sizes up.

I understand that change can present challenges, but I want to reassure you that we would not be making these changes at this time of year if we did not feel that it ensured the best provision for our pupils.

To ensure the new timetable is ready and staff are fully prepared, we will be bringing forward an Inset Day planned for later in the year. **Pupils will return to school on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**, we will hold a whole school assembly, this will be followed by an extended tutor time to ensure all pupils are prepared. Timetables will also be available on Classcharts. Apologies if this causes any inconvenience, I do appreciate this is short notice.

Many thanks to our wonder PTA for all their hard work raising money for our school on the chocolate tombola stall at the Stockbridge Christmas lights turn on last Friday. Also, thanks in advance for running the Year 7 & 8 Disco tonight, I'm sure lots of memories will be made.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all. I'm very proud of our Test Valley Community, your on-going support and our ability to work together is key in our school improvement journey; ensuring our pursuit of excellence is at the heart of all we do.

Wishing you and your families a very lovely Christmas and a happy New Year.

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!

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SENDCO & Assistant Headteacher  
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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.

## Forthcoming Dates

### w/c 11 December is Week 2 Timetable

13 December – Pupil Christmas Lunch

13 December – Christmas Jumper Day

13 December – Christmas Carol Concert, St Peter's Church

15 December – End of Term, Whole School Assembly, School closes at 12.50pm

## GCSE English Literature Theatre Trip

Years 10 and 11 have a fantastic opportunity to watch an incredible production of *A Christmas Carol*, starring Christopher Ecclestone as Scrooge. The year 10 trip is running on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January and the year 11s will go on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January. This is an invaluable opportunity for the students to watch a live performance of one of their core GCSE English Literature texts. All students should have received a letter, additional letters are available at Pupil Services. If you have any questions regarding the trip, please contact Mrs Dunn.



## Peter Symonds College Applications

Year 11: Please note that the application window for Peter Symonds College closes on **Monday 11 December**.

## Year 7 Celebration Service/MacMillan Coffee Afternoon



Whether you joined us for the cause, the chatter or the tasty treats, your generosity helped raise a fabulous

**£61.26**

to help support people living with cancer.



Member (Cancer Support), registered charity in England and Wales (20575), Scotland (SC029907) and the Isle of Man (2056). Also operating in Northern Ireland: MACMILLAN, Charities: NI01100253



At the Year 7 Celebration Service before half term, we held a MacMillan Coffee afternoon and raised **£61.26**.

A great effort at a small event. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

*Dear Test Valley school*

*Thank you for hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning and helping people living with cancer.*

*Your kindness makes a huge difference. It could mean someone with cancer can get **help with how they're feeling** on our Support Line. **Pay their bills** during treatment. Or **turn to a Macmillan nurse** for vital medical, practical and emotional support.*

*Please pass on our thanks to everyone who supported your event.*

*I hope you enjoyed being part of this year's Coffee Morning and feel rightly proud of your fundraising effort.*

*Thanks again, **Celine and the Coffee Morning Team***



**Test Valley** SCHOOL  
"In Pursuit of Personal Excellence"

Can you help  
support the school?

Lockable outdoor storage  
Wellies  
Overalls  
Gardening tools  
Wheelbarrow  
Tarpaulin Sheets  
Rope  
Fire pit and fire safety gloves  
Wooden Mallets  
Kelly Kettles  
Pots and pans  
Cooking utensils

Contact Sarah Vincent - [Vincents@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:Vincents@testvalley.hants.sch.uk)

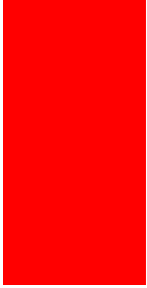
**REQUEST  
FOREST SCHOOLS  
EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

As we develop our onsite Forest Schools we are asking parents and the local community if they are able to donate any of the following equipment. Please contact [Vincents@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:Vincents@testvalley.hants.sch.uk)

- Lockable outdoor storage
- Wellies
- Overalls
- Gardening tools
- Wheelbarrow
- Tarpaulin sheets
- Rope
- Fire pit and fire safety gloves
- Wooden mallets
- Kelly kettles
- Pots and pans
- Cooking utensils
- Flint and steels
- Wetbag and waterproof bags
- Water carriers and containers
- Vegetable peelers
- Camping kettle
- Camping hammocks
- Polythene plastic sheeting

## MFL Stars

MFL stars of the month for November are:



French:

Year 11 – Ian T

Year 10 – Eleanor Y

Year 9 – Amelie T

Year 8 – Benji M

Year 7 – Olivia A

German:

Year 11 – Sam J

Year 10 – Roman B

Year 9 – Leon D

Year 8 – Kathryn V

Year 7 – Charlie K



## Celebrations

We love hearing about what our pupils do outside of school and below is a small snapshot of their recent achievements:



Elle-Skye attended the British Judo Championships in Sheffield and placed 2nd receiving a silver medal.

There were 12 in her weight category and she made it all the way to the final. This now ranks her number 2 in the country for her weight and age.

Sophie A and Milly T in year 7, attended the SDI ABC Street dance competition on Sunday.

Sophie's crew came 2nd in the advance category against another crew and Milly's Crew came 4th out of 8 in her category!

Well done Girls!



## KS3 and KS4

Shoutouts to our top  points earners w/c 27 November

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Barnaby D	Kathryn V	Matilda L	Oliver L-C	Mollie S
Tiger-Lilly C	Grace R	Alexis B	Megan R	Courtney M
Taya T	Alfie W	Ryan O	Roman B	Keysha M
Tom H	Mia H	Livvy S	Rosie W	Jack F
Ethan B	Fay R	Nicola S	Evie K	Chloe W

## Year 11

Year 11 progress reports will be published on 14 December and we will be holding a Parent/Carer Consultation Evening on Wednesday 3 January.

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

## Health and Wellbeing

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

## Community News

Please see below some information from Hampshire County Council regarding free emotional health and wellbeing courses for parents and professionals.

Parents can access a range of free online support to better understand children's emotional health, brain development and wellbeing

There are courses available from bump to 19+ years, and include:

- Understanding your child (0-19 years)
- Understanding your child with additional needs (0-19 years)
- Understanding your child's feelings
- Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Understanding your relationships
- Understanding the impact of the pandemic on your child/teenager

Courses are also available for professionals working with children and include the topics:

- Understanding trauma
- Understanding attachment
- Understanding brain development

All courses can be translated using Google Translate and some professional translations are available.

All the information needed to sign up for these free courses can be found at: [The Solihull Approach | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council](#)

([hants.gov.uk](https://hants.gov.uk)).

The inourplace schools' communications toolkit is available, which includes all the ready-to-use resources you need to build this into your engagement strategy for mental health. If you would like access to the toolkit, send an email to [healtheducation@hants.gov.uk](mailto:healtheducation@hants.gov.uk).

Watch this video which explains the Solihull Approach and its training in emotional health and wellbeing for children: [All about the Solihull Approach and its training in emotional health and wellbeing for children - YouTube](#).

Find more resources, free e-learning and signposting on the [Hampshire Health in Education website](#) or by emailing [healtheducation@hants.gov.uk](mailto:healtheducation@hants.gov.uk).



**Festive Longstock Bunny Cards  
for sale.**

All proceeds to the Longstock Playground Appeal.

Watercolour by local artist, Cecilia Burnfield.  
Cards left blank inside, for your own message.



These high quality cards are available from Lois Opperman  
[loisopperman@gmail.com](mailto:loisopperman@gmail.com) 07900 927913

£7.50/pack of 10 or £25/4 packs

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



Longstock Parish Council are selling unique "Longstock" Christmas cards to raise money for the Longstock Village Playground appeal. Please see leaflet for all information.

Family Face Support

January 2024



## Newsletter

LET'S FACE THE NEW YEAR!

<p>Tuesday 16th Jan 19:00 - 20:00 FREE</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FREE SESSION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cannabis Awareness</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Get the facts so you can have the conversation</p>
<p>Thursday 4th Jan 19:00 - 21:00 £24</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Supporting a Child with ADHD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Challenging stereotypes, explaining what ADHD is and offering a range of interventions that can make lasting differences.</p>
<p>Monday 8th Jan 19:00 - 21:00 £24</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Autism: Improving Communication</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Small changes in how you communicate, lead to huge improvements with your ability to communicate with someone on the spectrum.</p>
<p>Tuesday 9th Jan 19:00 - 21:00 £24</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Getting a Good Night</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Screen Addiction, insomnia, energy drinks and more. Get a range of extremely useful ideas on how to get quality sleep.</p>

facefamilyadvice.co.uk.
info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Supporting a Child with ADHD  
The extra session you asked for!



Challenge the stereotypes and get the facts with Jane Keyworth  
**Monday 18th December** (7pm to 9pm) £24  
Available to book now via the website  
[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

## Extra Curricular PE Activities

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

Day	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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	Art - Postponed until further notice	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				

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**

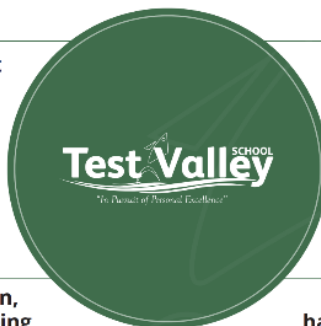
We show courage by not giving in, challenging ourselves, stepping out of our comfort zones and not fearing failure.

**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.*