



Thursday 13th November 2025

Issue NUMBER 9 2025-2026

DIARY DATES

November 19th	8.55-9.55	Hampshire Book Awards Winners Webinar
November 20th	4.00-7.00pm	Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening
November 24 th		INSET DAY
November 25 th to December 5th		Year 11 Trial Exams
December 3 rd	3.00-4.00pm 7.00-9.00pm	Enterprise and Marketing Christmas Fair Romsey Abbey Choir Concert
December 6th		DofE Silver Practice Walk
December 11 th -12th		Art/Photography trial exams Year 11
December 16 th & 17th	6.30pm	Christmas Concert
December 19th	12.30pm	College closes for Christmas Holidays
January 5 th 2026		INSET DAY
January 6 th 2026		Students return to college – all years.

Assemblies w/b 10/11/25: House Assemblies

KEY COLLEGE DATES – [click here for a list of the key college dates for 2025-2026](#)

Dear Parents and carers

Significant National Changes to Education

For the last few months, an independent review of England's curriculum, assessment and qualifications system has taken place, chaired by Professor Becky Francis CBE. This involved a call for evidence and views. National organisations and charities, as well as individual local education authorities, schools, colleges and parents all gave their views. Last week, Professor Francis published the review's findings and the following day the government published its response, confirming the changes it will be making to the curriculum (what students study) as well as to assessment, exams and qualifications. This review covered all key stages from year R to year 13. You can read the full government response [here https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/690b2a4a14b040dfe82922ea/Government response to the Curriculum and Assessment Review.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/690b2a4a14b040dfe82922ea/Government_response_to_the_Curriculum_and_Assessment_Review.pdf)

However, I thought it would be useful to summarise the changes affecting secondary schools for you and to explain what is likely to change at Wyvern.

1. Revise the national curriculum in 2027 for first teaching in Sept 2028. There will be a greater focus on critical thinking skills; a greater emphasis on digital, media and financial literacy. Schools should ensure that students are given three full years to experience the KS3 curriculum. Unlike most schools, Wyvern begins Key Stage 4 a year early from the start of Year 9, with students choosing options in year 8. We will await detailed clarification from the government but from the initial information, it looks as if we will need to change this.
2. Academies like Wyvern will no longer be able to deviate from the National Curriculum. All schools will be required to teach the refreshed national curriculum in each subject rather than their variation of it. This means that some topics and units of work we have chosen to engage our particular students might need to be replaced by those chosen by the government.

3. The government will introduce national Year 8 assessments in reading, writing and Maths to assess progress made since SATs in year 6.
4. The content of GCSE courses will be revised for first teaching in Sept 2029. This will involve a reduction in the overall amount of time students spend in end of Year 11 exams. In many subjects, there will be a reduction in the quantity of content that students have to know and remember for their exams.
5. Revise the English Language GCSE so that there is greater emphasis on spotting misinformation and disinformation (information which is inaccurate and information which is deliberately inaccurate).
6. Revise the Science and Geography curriculum to include more climate education.
7. Introduce a Natural History GCSE as an optional subject.
8. Revise the personal development curriculum to include strategies for self-regulation, perseverance and resilience. In RE, the government will consider and consult schools on how to replace locally agreed syllabuses with one national RE curriculum.
9. Revise the Design and Technology curriculum to place more emphasis on sustainability.
10. Reform the computing curriculum to ensure it delivers digital literacy. Computer science GCSE will be replaced by a broader course to include AI and Data Science.
11. Introduce a core enrichment offer of extra-curricular activities which gives students access to all of the following types of extra-curricular opportunities in schools: "civic engagement"; the arts and culture; nature, outdoor and adventure; sport and physical activities.
12. The EBacc (the expectation that students should study a modern foreign language and either Geography or History alongside English, Maths and Science), has been scrapped. This is a significant reversal of the previous government's guidance and Ofsted guidance which made clear that the EBacc should form the basis of most students' curriculum in Key Stage 4. This will mean that less students will study both a foreign language GCSE and a GCSE in either Geography and History, allowing for greater freedom and personalisation. We will change our options' guidance and rules for the current Year 8 when they choose their options next term, and for all subsequent year groups.

13.
The government had also hoped to publish its plans for the reform of the Special Needs and Disabilities system but has delayed doing so in order to test its ideas out with educators and SEND organisations.

I hope this provides a useful summary for you. We will of course communicate any further updates or changes if we get any.

Safeguarding

Hampshire's domestic abuse partnership has launched a campaign called "Is this Love?" to raise awareness of coercive control. Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people who are or have been members of a family. It can seriously harm children and young people, and experiencing domestic abuse is child abuse. Because of this, exposing a child to domestic abuse is regarded as a form of child abuse ie to witness it is to experience it. The police share with us at Wyvern its reports of incidents of domestic abuse and we know from these that coercive control is increasingly being reported and investigated. We do teach children about coercive control in the curriculum and through assemblies. So, we welcome Hampshire's focus on this issue and are happy to agree to their request for us to pass onto you their [campaign post and video](#). For more details, please also see the campaign information page on the HDAP website:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/domestic-abuse-partnership/professionals/communications-campaigns>

We have been made aware of a pop-up that is appearing in Roblox, encouraging children to download an app called pollybuzz (or pollyfuzz in some cases). The app seems quite simple where children are asked questions, and it generates an artificial intelligence friend. This starts innocently but then begins to show extreme content (including suicide, self-harm and pornography). If your child plays Roblox, please check their device for this app and remove it as soon as possible. It is a good opportunity to talk to your child about pop-ups and the dangers of downloading apps they do not know.

With best wishes
Mr Rule

COLLEGE CULTURE

SUBJECT AWARD PHOTOS

If you asked for re-prints of the photos that you ordered, they are now ready for collection from the Finance Office.

The house point totals as of the 12th of November:



COMMUNITY NEWS

VOLUNTEERS WANTED



We are looking for volunteers aged 14+ for our Multi Sports Club for who have learning and/or physical disabilities.

We are a friendly and relaxed club and do a variety of activities throughout the week: Swimming, Football, Sports, Basketball and Crafts on Thursdays, Fridays, Sunday mornings and evenings and Saturday afternoons

We are based in Wildern, Hedge End, Thornden and Harefield.

If interested, please look at our website for further details:

<http://www.multisportsclub.org.uk/>

Contact Details:

Info@multisportsclub.org.uk

Susan Perrin 07814135565

Sarah Jane Davies 07810867309

CAREERS NEWS

UNIFROG SEMINARS

Finance taster: FOMO and finance - are you really missing out?

Virtual



Social media is full of claims that you can get rich quickly by trading stocks, FX, crypto, or even meme coins. But are you really missing out if you don't join in? In this session with Bangor University, we'll look at the common pitfalls new traders face, like misunderstanding the risk, being influenced by psychology and the fear of missing out (FOMO), and the dangers of market manipulation and fraud. If you're considering studying finance or a related subject, this session is for you!

Tuesday 18 November @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

Think you can catch a killer? Dive into offender profiling

Virtual

Perfect for criminology or policing enthusiasts, this interactive session blends real-world insights with hands-on learning. Join Dr Annie Marsland, Lecturer in Policing at the University of Huddersfield, to hear expert insights on psychological offender profiling. Discover core profiling principles, analyse criminal behaviour, and test your knowledge with a mock investigation. Are you ready to challenge your detective skills?

Tuesday 18 November @ 17:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)



BAE Systems 2026 Apprenticeships are open for application!

Start a new career today. Shape the world of tomorrow. [Click here for more details](#) and for how to sign up for

BAE Systems Maritime and Land Defence Solutions: Virtual Apprenticeship Information Session

Tuesday 25 November 2025, 17.30 – 18.45

Richard Taunton Sixth Form College
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OPEN EVENTS
25/26

WEDNESDAY 19 NOV 6-8PM

5:00 - 7:00PM

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www.richardtaunton.ac.uk

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South Hampshire College Group

Open Events

College	Event Dates
Eastleigh College	Wednesday 22 October Tuesday 25 November
Fareham College	Tuesday 14 October Thursday 13 November
Southampton College	Tuesday 21 October Thursday 20 November
CEMAST & CETC	Wednesday 19 November

All events are from 17:00 – 19:00

Scan here

shcg.ac.uk/events

Your future starts here

TRY SOMETHING NEW Aged 16-25?

Join the **Team programme**, our 12-week personal development course, for the chance to gain new skills, take a qualification, and meet new people.



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- Take part in a residential trip
- Get two weeks' work experience
- Develop your English and Maths skills
- Spend some time developing your CV and interview skills

Contact us to book your place:



07353 126426



kingstrust@itchen.ac.uk



5th January 2026



Itchen College

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FUTURES FOR ALL



In-person



Explore Creativity and Careers in the Arts

Get evening work experience with John Hansard Gallery

John Hansard Gallery

Join us for 6 after-school sessions between March and May 2026 to gain practical experience working in a contemporary art gallery. Have a go at curating exhibitions, making artwork, working with practicing artists and developing your own portfolio! Plus, collaborate with like-minded peers and build networks, confidence and sought-after transferable skills.

Check out the [webpage](#) for full details and dates

6 sessions in March-May

4.30pm - 6.30pm

Ages: 14 - 16

Apply by: 12 February 2026

Apply at futuresforall.org



WELLBEING, SAFETY & SUPPORT

Online Safety Newsletter

[Click here for the latest edition of our online safety newsletter](#)



ANTI-BULLYING

FROM THE DIANA AWARD

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

This week all you Year 7-10 students will receive details about the role of Anti-bullying Ambassadors and how they can apply to become one.

[Click on this link for more information about this important work.](#)

Applications will close on Friday 14th November.

GENERAL NOTICES

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY BAKE SALE! 🍪

Get ready for a sweet treat! On Wednesday 19th, we're holding a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Fundraising Bake Sale during Break 1 and Break 2 outside Student Services / Finance Office.

Come along and enjoy cookies, brownies, cupcakes, cheesecakes, pop cakes, and more! All proceeds will go towards supporting our upcoming production.

Cash and card payments accepted – don't miss out on the scrumdiddlyumptious fun!

DUKE OF EDINBURGH WALKS



Last weekend, students took part in their first Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) practice hike — a 12km route completed over the course of a morning. We ran two groups, one on Saturday and one on Sunday, both following the same scenic path past Marwell Zoo and through the countryside. A real highlight was spotting a red panda resting in the trees, while passing Marwell.



The weather was ideal for walking — bright and cool — and we were lucky to miss the rain entirely. As this was the first practice walk, the focus was on learning key skills such as map reading, compass use, and route planning. Students worked together brilliantly, navigating the trail and keeping a steady pace throughout.

By lunchtime, both groups had successfully completed the 12km route. It was a great introduction to the DofE experience, filled with teamwork, learning, and a sense of achievement.

WYVERN REMEMBRANCE

We are so proud of our Year 7 students and staff led by Mrs Brock – who produced our beautiful poppy tribute - and our musicians Ben, Arran, Jemima and Ethan that played so well before and after the 2-minute silence, led by Miss Wood.



PUPIL PRESS

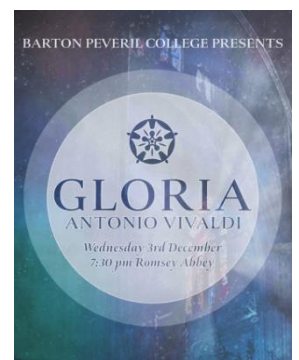
[The latest issue of the student newsletter Pupil Press is out now and on our website.](#)

ROMSEY ABBEY CONCERT TICKETS

See link below to purchase tickets for this Years Romsey Abbey concert on 3rd December: [Barton Peveril Christmas Concert - Vivaldi Gloria at Romsey Abbey event tickets from TicketSource](#)

Our Wyvern chamber choir will be performing as part of the massed choir and it is set to be a spectacular event.

Many thanks
Miss Wood
CL Music



YEAR 7 NOTICES

In the next few weeks year 7's will be undertaking a unit of work on puberty and body image as part of their Religious and Personal Studies (R.P.S.) lessons. [Please click here for a letter from our Curriculum Head, Mrs Adams, about the content of this module.](#)

YEAR 8 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 9 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 10 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 11 NOTICES



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