



Thursday 20th November 2025

Issue NUMBER 11 2025-2026

DIARY DATES

November 20 th	4.00-7.00pm	Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening
November 24 th		INSET DAY
November 25 th to December 5 th		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 11 th -12 th		Art/Photography trial exams Year 11
December 16 th & 17 th	6.30pm	Christmas Concert
December 19 th	12.30pm	Non-Uniform Day for Wessex Cancer Support College closes for Christmas Holidays
January 5 th 2026		INSET DAY
January 6 th 2026		Students return to college – all years.
January 22 nd		Poetry Live – Year 11
January 24 th		DofE Silver Practice Walk
January 30 th		Fort Nelson – Year 8
January 31 st – February 1 st		Bronze DfE walk – New Forest
February 5 th & 6 th	7pm	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Evening)
February 7 th	12.30pm & 7.00pm	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Matinee and Evening)
March 12 th		Vocal Festival

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

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

Dear Parents and carers

It has been a pleasure this week for me to spend time in lessons looking at teaching and learning. The standards of effort and PRIDe behaviours has been high. This year we have been focusing on providing more opportunities for students to be actively engaged in their learning, for greater challenge to be given to students and for teachers to check on the learning as the lesson progresses. Through regular quality assurance of lessons, leaders have been able to identify where best practice exists in these things and to share this more widely; to ensure greater consistency.

This week we have seen a drop in temperatures, so it is a good time to ask for your support with winter clothing. Students should be coming to college with coats; some of our buildings have very poor insulation and the temperatures can be low. Teachers can use their discretion to allow students to wear coats in colder classrooms during lesson time. Although students can come to college in hats and scarves, and can wear these when outside, we expect students to remove these inside the buildings. We do not permit hoodies, and these should not be worn as a substitute for a coat. We will confiscate hoodies when we see them because we do not want them to become fashion trend which young people feel they need to wear to conform to a clique's view of what is fashionable.

On the subject of uniform, the government has just published its guidance to schools for ensuring that school uniforms are affordable for families. From September 2026, schools must limit the number of compulsory branded items to three (four if a tie is one of them.) A branded item is one that, due to its colour, design, fabric

or other distinctive characteristic, is only available from the school's appointed uniform suppliers. At Wyvern, we have three compulsory branded items:

1. The tie
2. Either the jumper or the blazer
3. The PE sports top.

The skirt is also branded but is not compulsory as students can wear trousers instead. The rest of the uniform: shirts, trousers, PE shorts can be purchased from supermarkets and other shops. Although we do not need to make changes to comply with the new government guidance, we appreciate that there are families who struggle to afford it. The Wyvern uniform items are good quality and very durable; as such they can be worn smartly when second hand. We are very grateful to families who donate uniform items they no longer need because we pass these onto other families. We still have a lot of second-hand stock so if you need assistance, please do let us know. To further make uniform affordable, we have arranged for a second supplier to sell the branded items.

Vaping has become increasingly common among pre-teenage children, and we have seen a worrying trend of students joining the college already used to vaping. E-cigarettes are not safe for children or young people. The rise in brightly packaged, sweet flavours has made them appealing to young people, despite the health risks. Vaping is frequently shown on TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram, making it appear fun, fashionable and normal (and therefore safe). Research shows that more young people are experimenting with these each year. Although often marketed as "safer than smoking", vapes still carry serious risks:

- **Nicotine addiction:** many vapes contain high levels of nicotine which can cause dependency and affect brain development in young people.
- **Harmful chemicals:** vapes can contain toxic substances such as formaldehyde, acrolein and metals like lead. These can damage lungs and the cardiovascular system.
- **Respiratory effects:** vaping can irritate airways, trigger asthma and cause long-term problems.
- **Unregulated products:** some disposable vapes, especially those bought online or from informal sellers exceed the legal nicotine levels or contain banned substances. This can include THC.

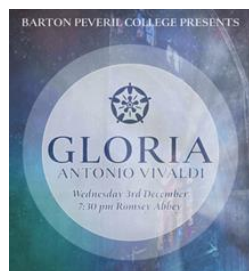
It is illegal to sell vapes or e-cigarettes to anyone under the age of 18. It is also illegal for adults to buy vapes on behalf of under-18s. At Wyvern, we treat vaping on site in the same way as smoking – it is strictly prohibited and students who repeatedly do it will be suspended. At the same time, we are keen to work with young people and their families to support them giving up vaping.

With best wishes
Mr Rule

COLLEGE CULTURE

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





ROMSEY ABBEY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

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.

CAREERS NEWS

UNIFROG SEMINARS



You be the judge: the real life challenges of sentencing Virtual

What really happens after someone is found guilty of a crime? Should we punish or rehabilitate? What's fair, and who decides? Step into a judge's shoes and tackle the toughest part of criminal law – sentencing. In this session with Southampton Solent University you'll examine a case study, weigh up the evidence, and deliver your sentence. This is your chance to be a judge. Consider how to balance public safety with second chances

and take your first steps to becoming tomorrow's legal experts!

Monday 24 November @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

Why does my brain glitch? The psychology of everyday mistakes

Virtual

Why do we forget names, mix up words, or switch languages without meaning to? From saying the wrong thing in class to blanking on a word, these 'brain glitches' reveal how our minds process information and sometimes get overloaded. Discover what De Montfort University psychologists have learned from studying bilinguals – the ultimate multitaskers – and find out why those everyday errors might actually be signs of how incredible your brain really is.

Monday 24 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

WELLBEING, SAFETY & SUPPORT

Online Safety Newsletter

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

DENTAL CARE

We're pleased to let you know that **Eastleigh Dental Care is now accepting new NHS patients.**

If you could kindly share this with parent groups, we would really appreciate it.

- 👤 Free NHS dental care for all children under 18
- 👤 Now open to new adult NHS patients
- 🏠 Emergency appointments available the same day
- ☐ Hygiene special: Buy 3 sessions, get 1 FREE
- 🚗 Free parking on-site
- ☎ 023 8061 4776

WINTER CLOTHING REQUEST

With the colder weather now upon us, please can we remind parents/carers to send students in with a coat, suitable for cold and wet conditions.

Sensible warm waterproof coats. Excessive logos are not allowed, nor are coats made from denim, real or simulated leather, real or simulated fur.

As a reminder, any outer garment that is not a coat (such as those made of nylon, jersey, sweatshirt, or other non-waterproof fabrics) is not permitted to be worn.

This includes jumpers and hooded tops – which will be confiscated.



LET'S MEET UP!

SEN Support

LET'S CHAT, LAUGH & UNWIND TOGETHER.

Raising or supporting someone with additional needs? You're not alone. Come join us for a relaxed friendly get-together with others who "get it". No pressure, no judgement - just good chats and maybe a cheeky cake!

 **Friday 5th December**

 **1pm till 3pm**

 **The Fountain Cafe, Fair Oak**



Whether you're a parent, carer, family member or just someone with a big heart and shared experience - everyone's welcome.



GENERAL NOTICES

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY BAKE SALE! 🍪

Our cake sale raised over £200! Thank you for all the donations and to our many customers.



PUPIL PRESS

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



NEWS FROM THE IT DEPARTMENT!

Some of our Year 10 Creative iMedia students enjoyed an exceptional behind-the-scenes experience at Warner Bros. Studios this week, including rare access to one of the studio's "dailies cinemas" —the screening rooms normally used to view daily rushes during film production. Sitting in the same seats used by top filmmakers gave students a unique understanding of how scenes are reviewed, refined, and approved.

The highlight of the visit was meeting Gary Tomkins, the Art Director responsible for designing the Hogwarts Castle, Hagrid's Hut and many other sets used on the Harry Potter movies. He shared captivating stories about how the wizarding world was created and offered valuable advice on pursuing careers in film, media, and digital design. Students were inspired by his creativity and impressed by the level of detail involved in professional art direction.

The trip offered an unforgettable glimpse into the realities of filmmaking and has left many students excited about future opportunities in the creative industries.



YEAR 7 NOTICES

CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

Staff and students are looking forward to Christmas lunches this year. Christmas lunch and festive dessert will be at a cost of **£5.00**.

Options for lunch will be *Roast Chicken with trimmings (DF) (GF)* or *Ratatouille with trimmings (VEG) (VE)* (DF)

Year 7 Lunch will be Thursday 11th December - Payment must be made via Parentmail by 3pm Monday 8th December

All Free School Meal students must complete a ParentMail form by the deadline, no payment is required. Please email finance-office@wyvern.hants.sch.uk with any additional dietary requirements.

YEAR 8 NOTICES

YEAR 8 Visit to the Fort Nelson Museum - Friday 30th January 2026

The History Department is planning a visit to the Fort Nelson Museum near Portsmouth to help our students develop their understanding of soldiers' experiences during World War One and providing opportunities to see and handle original British and German artefacts and weapons from World War 1. Students will discover the real-life story of George Weston who lived and trained at the Fort before leaving for the trenches and find out what life was really like for the ordinary man on the Front and the grim realities of healthcare if you were injured. Year 8 are studying this as part of the Key Stage 3 History curriculum.

[Click here for more details – application is via Parent Mail](#)

CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

Staff and students are looking forward to Christmas lunches this year. Christmas lunch and festive dessert will be at a cost of **£5.00**.

Options for lunch will be *Roast Chicken with trimmings (DF) (GF) or Ratatouille with trimmings (VEG) (VE) (DF)*

Year 8 Lunch will be Tuesday 9th December - Payment must be made via Parentmail by 3pm Thursday 4th December

All Free School Meal students must complete a ParentMail form by the deadline, no payment is required.

Please email finance-office@wyvern.hants.sch.uk with any additional dietary requirements.

Hello

The central heating has kicked in, the car thermometer was showing minus 2 degrees this morning, The Pogues were playing on the radio, and everyone is wearing this seasons bobble hat and glove set which must mean that winter is definitely on its way!

As a year team we are focusing this half term on being positive, celebrating any good news, rewarding pupils for both academic success as well as demonstrating kindness, empathy, being helpful and generally just being a good egg! We are introducing 'tutee of the week' - a small acknowledgement from the tutor for the pupil who has caught their eye for a kind act or has become really involved in a tutor activity or has made a real effort to improve their behaviour etc. We are also asking staff to email the pastoral office with 'shout outs' for classes for that week who have really impressed them, and we shall share these in assembly. These are small token gestures but will start the ball rolling....

House competitions are in full swing with pupils currently working as a tutor to decorate either a window, wall or door in some form of festive design. House points are up for grabs for the best one. Our traditional Christmas lunches are currently being organised with further details regarding this to follow. Our celebration assembly is being planned with awards and prizes to be earned across a number of categories. All of this combined with the countdown to the festive season means that there is an optimistic and decidedly jovial feel around the site - long may this continue.

For this week's highlight I would like to focus on individual pupils who are actively involved in their learning and who have made a real effort to ask and answer questions. Well done to Seb (C2), Eva-Rose (P1) and Jake (D1) and to tutor group 8D1 who top the list for this category. Well done also to tutor group 8D2 who top the achievement points with 7034

Year 8 Team

YEAR 9 NOTICES

CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

Staff and students are looking forward to Christmas lunches this year. Christmas lunch and festive dessert will be at a cost of **£5.00**.

Options for lunch will be *Roast Chicken with trimmings (DF) (GF) or Ratatouille with trimmings (VEG) (VE) (DF)*

Year 9 Lunch will be Wednesday 10th December - Payment must be made via Parentmail by 3pm Friday 5th December

All Free School Meal students must complete a ParentMail form by the deadline, no payment is required.

Please email finance-office@wyvern.hants.sch.uk with any additional dietary requirements.

YEAR 10 NOTICES

CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

Staff and students are looking forward to Christmas lunches this year. Christmas lunch and festive dessert will be at a cost of **£5.00**.

Options for lunch will be *Roast Chicken with trimmings (DF) (GF) or Ratatouille with trimmings (VEG) (VE) (DF)*

Year 10 Lunch will be Tuesday 16th December - Payment must be made via Parentmail by 3pm

Thursday 11th December

All Free School Meal students must complete a ParentMail form by the deadline, no payment is required.

Please email finance-office@wyvern.hants.sch.uk with any additional dietary requirements.

YEAR 11 NOTICES

CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

Staff and students are looking forward to Christmas lunches this year. Christmas lunch and festive dessert will be at a cost of **£5.00**.

Options for lunch will be *Roast Chicken with trimmings (DF) (GF) or Ratatouille with trimmings (VEG) (VE) (DF)*

Year 11 Lunch will be Wednesday 17th December - Payment must be made via Parentmail by 3pm

Friday 12th December

All Free School Meal students must complete a ParentMail form by the deadline, no payment is required.

Please email finance-office@wyvern.hants.sch.uk with any additional dietary requirements.

POETRY LIVE

In the Spring term, the English department are running an exciting trip to watch and listen to the AQA GCSE poets reading and discussing their poems. The event 'Poetry Live' takes place in Basingstoke. This will be a valuable and enriching experience for students in Year 11 as they will gain a unique insight into the language and context of their Power and Conflict poems in readiness for their GCSE English Literature exam.

[Please click here more information about the trip and how to apply for a place for your child.](#)

YEAR 11 TRAILS TIMETABLES

[Please click here for confirmation of the Y11 Trial exams timetable which begin next week on Tuesday 25th November.](#)

Most students will have an exam each day during the fortnight, and, on some occasions, students will have 2 exams in a day.

During this period, we allow students to leave site after the second exam of the day or at the end of Period 4. If students would prefer to stay on site to revise, we set up supervised study rooms and students are welcome to take up this offer.

Personalised exam timetables are now available for students and parents on EduLink.

If there are any queries around exams, please do contact me or the Y11 Pastoral Office.

Simon Stocks