



Thursday 11th December 2025

Issue NUMBER 14 2025-2026

DIARY DATES

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 15/12/25 - Celebration Assemblies

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

Dear Parents and carers

As we come to the final week of the autumn term, there are lots of festive activities for students to enjoy: Christmas lunches, decoration of tutor group rooms, our concert and the culmination of our kindness challenge. I am very pleased that attendance has remained strong this half term when it has slipped significantly nationally, with some schools even having to close due to the prevalence of staff illness. Thank you for all your efforts in supporting strong attendance.

Sharps, Blades and Knives in College

I am aware that this week some parents have been discussing on Facebook whether a student brought a knife into college. So, I thought it would be a good time to explain what the college does when someone reports this might be the case and the circumstances in which we will notify parents something has happened and the circumstances in which we won't.

Our policy and process are that if a student, parent, member of staff or a member of the public gives us information that suggests a student might have a sharp, blade or knife on them, the safeguarding team will respond extremely quickly. The student is spoken to, their bag and pockets are searched, and the electronic metal detecting wand is used to identify any metal objects we cannot see. Any object that is found will be instantly confiscated. We then assess the intent and context before deciding what to do next. For example, recently a student brought in a paper cutting knife to their D&T lesson and used it to cut paper. As a very new student to the college, they thought this was allowed. In the last 18 months we have had a handful of similar incidents. One student brought in a large pair of sharp scissors to a textiles lesson because they felt this cut material better than the college scissors (which are blunter for a reason!) A second had a multi-tool device in their bag from when he had been to scouts. A third came and reported themselves when they discovered they had left a knife used for fishing in their bag from staying at their dad's house over the weekend. A fourth brought in a cake knife to their food lesson. Context and intent are really crucial here. In all these cases there was no intent to harm or to glorify knives and all were accidents or students acting in good faith (albeit

misguided). The safeguarding team was able to give safeguarding guidance to the student and contact their parent to discuss this.

These situations are all very different from someone bringing in a knife with the intent to threaten, intimidate or hurt others or to show a knife off and glorify knives as weapons. If this were to happen, the item would be confiscated, the police would be called and the student would be given the most serious sanction possible. The last time we had that happen was 4 years ago when a year 7 student brought in a multi-tool device and threatened another student with it. We do educate students in knife crime and make the point that no sharp or blade, however small should be brought into college. It is pleasing that our students understand this and report any suspicions they might have.

We have to decide when to notify all parents about a sharp, blade or knife. We do not notify all parents when the motive is innocent, and there was no intent to cause harm or glorify the items. We also do not notify all parents if others suspect a student has a blade or knife, but none is found when they are fully searched. We do notify the parents of those students who have passed onto us a concern and those parents of a child who has been searched because of someone's concern. Rarely, we will need to contact the parents of all the students in a class if at the end of a lesson, the number of sharp tools or equipment being returned is less than the number handed out and if a search of the room and a search of all students in the room cannot locate it.

Please do be reassured that we work very hard to prevent and manage any incidents involving sharps, blades and knives. If you ever have a concern, please ask the safeguarding team via the usual enquiries email. Although you might be anxious about what you hear or suspect, please don't post this on social media as this simply leads to the accumulation of misinformation (false information) and even disinformation (deliberately false information) which then spreads alarm and distrust.

With best wishes
Mr Rule

PARENT TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT

We still have a vacancy for a Parent Trustee. As a parent governor or trustee, your role is:

- To bring a parental perspective to the issues discussed – you're not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body
- No different from other governors or trustees

Parents are elected to the board, not appointed (unless there are fewer candidates than vacancies). All parents are eligible to stand, and all are entitled to vote, should we have more than two candidates stand for the vacancies.

Timetable for Parent Trustee Recruitment

- Applications to be received by Monday 19th January.
- Parent Ballot (if needed) will take place Wednesday 21st January to 12.00 on Monday 2nd February.

Votes will be counted on the afternoon of Monday 2nd February 2026 and candidates contacted. Result announced on Thursday 5th February 2026 via the parent newsletter.

Before considering whether to apply we would urge all those interested read through [Trustee Recruitment Information](#) - you will find this and other important documents on the [Trust Governance page](#) on our web site along with the application form.

If you have any questions, please email clerk@wyvern.hants.sch.uk

COLLEGE CULTURE

House points as of 10th
December 2025



COMMUNITY NEWS

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHAMPTON

As the Christmas Holidays is fast approaching, Southampton City Council are pleased to announce that we have a wide range of activities for children and their families to keep everyone entertained, including a visit to see Father Christmas!

We have planned programme of history and art workshops that cover everything from fun family walking tours to hands on workshops and all day wrap around care. Workshops are engaging, accessible and designed to promote family learning. We also have the return of Father Christmas at Tudor House and Garden.

More details, including how to book, can be found on this link [Christmas Holiday Activities 2025](#)

SMART LIVING CHRISTMAS

Hampshire County Council's waste minimising initiative, [Smart Living](#), has launched its annual campaign to help people save money and reduce their waste during the festive season. Follow the Smart Living Christmas character, Holly, during December, as she gives out lots of hints and tips to help families have fun, save money and reduce waste.

Find festive hacks and the [Green Gift Guide](#) on our webpage: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving/festivesavings>

Want to join in as a school? You can find free resources from [RStuff](#) to help you organise a Christmas Jumper Swap or a Coat Exchange!

FREE Cooking Classes

Practical cooking programme to gain valuable knowledge & skills for health and wellbeing.

Six week cooking workshop!

Be quick! Spaces are limited!

- Open to all residents (16 years and over)
- Must be a resident of Fair Oak, Horton Heath or Bishopstoke
- Starts Tuesday 13 January to 17 February 2026, 5pm to 7pm at the Fountain Cafe, Shorts Road

Sign up here: [QR Code]

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL Funded by UK Government **The Fountain**

FAIR OAK COMMUNITY LIBRARY

A BOOK OF LOCAL YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS

Many thanks for your support this term regarding the production of our book of local children and young people's writing and art.

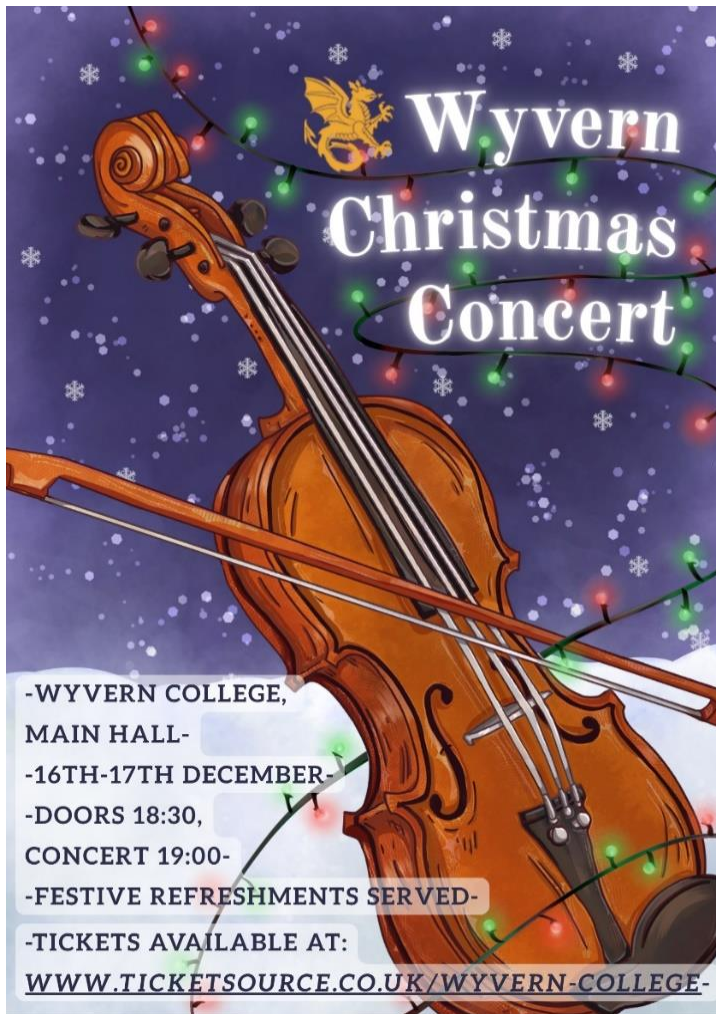
It is now available to reserve, and we'll hopefully receive the books next week from the printers. £8.00 per copy or £14 for two.

They are available to reserve from: hello@fairoakcommunitylibrary.org or by calling into the library.

An event will be happening for participants in January with prizes.

HM Queen Camilla has personally supported this project. She and all local schools will receive a copy. All proceeds will help support our library which is a registered charity.

Many thanks,
Pauline Pearce (Trustee)




We Are Changing Our Hours!

From January 2026:
Our Term Time Pre-School will now be open 8.30am to 3.30pm

Government funding accepted.

Use the QR Code to find out more and book your place.




www.wyvernchildcare.org.uk

CAREERS NEWS

UNIFROG SEMINARS



Linguistics taster: how to build a language for monsters
Virtual

Discover how linguists create entirely new languages for film and television in this session. Professor David Adger from Queen Mary, University of London will reveal how he designs 'conlangs' – including a monster language for 'Beowulf' – using real creole languages as inspiration. Explore the grammar, creativity, and science behind language invention, and see if you can speak like one of his creatures yourself. Come along if you're curious about linguistics, English, or

creative media careers.

Wednesday 14 January @ 17:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

Psychology taster: why do we fall for fake news?

Virtual

This session with Bangor University will take a sharp look at how false information spreads and why people fall for it. Using striking historical examples and modern online cases, you'll discover how emotion, bias, and impulse shape what we believe. You'll also learn how to spot unreliable claims, check sources, and apply critical thinking to avoid being misled.

Thursday 15 January @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)



BAE Systems 2026 Apprenticeships are open for application!

Start a new career today. Shape the world of tomorrow.

With roles across engineering, manufacturing, business and technology you'll find a role to suit you at BAE Systems. With the support of industry experts and mentors, as well as gaining professional qualifications, our apprentices can build a career for life where they can make a real difference.



You can explore our full range of programmes and apply online here: [Apprenticeships in the United Kingdom | BAE Systems Careers](#)

Applications are open **until 28 February 2026**, but we encourage early application.

For opportunities with our team in Maritime and Land Defence Solutions, you can 'Search and Apply':

- by **LOCATION** eg. Broad Oak (Hilsea), Portsmouth, Cowes (Isle of Wight), Glascoed, Radway Green, Washington
- by our **SECTOR** > Maritime Services or Land.

If you have any questions or would like guidance on the application process, our Early Careers Team will be happy to help. You can contact the apprentice recruitment team [HERE](#) or phone **0208 068 2868**

TWO EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG COMPOSERS:

Martin Read Foundation Young Composers Scheme: [News: supporting young composers | Martin Read Foundation](#)

Carducci Young Composers Competition 2026: [Carducci Young Composers Competition – Carducci Quartet](#)

HAMPSHIRE MUSIC EDUCATION HUB

LEARN ONLINE MUSIC PRODUCTION WITH HAMPSHIRE MUSIC SERVICE

ARE YOU AGED 8-13 WITH A DREAM OF CREATING MUSIC?

JOIN OUR ONLINE MUSIC PRODUCTION COURSE, OPEN TO ALL, REGARDLESS OF ABILITIES AND MUSICAL BACKGROUND!

CREATE AND RECORD YOUR OWN MUSIC ONLINE WITH EXPERT TUITION FROM HMS STAFF!

SESSIONS ARE HELD ON THURSDAYS, 16.30 - 17.30	A MINIMUM OF 20 LESSONS OVER THE SPRING AND SUMMER SCHOOLS TERMS	DEVELOP YOUR SEQUENCING, RECORDING AND EDITING SKILLS!
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£70 PER TERM - JUST £7 PER LESSON!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP NOW!](#)

for more information, visit: musicproduction.hantsmusic.org.uk

Hampshire County Council Music Service

Supported using public funding by **Department for Education** and **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

WELLBEING, SAFETY & SUPPORT

Nurture Course for Parents

Friday 16th January 2026

10am - 12 noon

Fountain Café, Shorts Road, Fair Oak

Please join us for this 10 week course designed by the Centre for Emotional Health supporting parents to build on their relationships with their children. Each week there will be simple strategies and tools to help create strong connections within your family. Each session will be 2 hours and refreshments will be provided. To register your interest please scan the QR code.



l.linklater@fairoak-inf.hants.sch.uk

o.steven@fairoak-jun.hants.sch.uk

e.gilbert@wyvern.hants.sch.uk

Trauma

Understanding the impact of trauma on a young person's brain, body and behaviour and how we can guide them from surviving to thriving

4 June Basingstoke
7 October Havant

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION & ADVICE SESSIONS

The first Wednesday of every month
10am - 2pm
The Arc, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8SB

You can book an appointment on our website
Or just drop in and see us

Parents, Carers and Professionals Events 2026

BOOK YOUR SESSION SPACES AT:
hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events

Anxiety

Understanding & strategies to support young people

28 January Basingstoke
11 November Havant

P.A.C.E. 2026

PARENT & CARER EVENTS

Free health & wellbeing events for all parents & carers who support or work with young people

DATE	LOCATION
26 February	Basingstoke
16 April	Eastleigh
8 May	Lyndhurst
25 June	Andover
5 October	Havant
23 October	Waterlooville

Scan this QR code to view our session itinerary for the day

EMBRACING AUTISM

Three days that focus on skills and strategies, for parents, carers and professionals supporting a child with Autism

4 February Havant
9 July Eastleigh
17 November Andover

Stopping Avoidable Suicides Initiative SASI

Hampshire CAMHS are offering a one-day training event on suicide prevention across three different locations in Hampshire

27 February Andover
11 June Waterlooville
2 October Eastleigh

UNDERSTANDING ADHD

Three days that focus on skills and strategies, for parents, carers and professionals supporting a child with ADHD

5 March Eastleigh
16 September Havant
3 November Andover

HOW TO COPE WHEN YOUR CHILD CANTS

Three one-day events focused on parents/carers understanding their own needs, and learning strategies to look after themselves as they support a young person with their own mental health needs.

22 January Winchester
15 May Eastleigh
30 September Basingstoke

Online safety support for neurodivergent children

Online scams like trust trades and fake giveaways can cause harm and upset to all children, but neurodivergent children are at greater risk of falling victim to scams.

Internet Matters have worked with Ambitious about Autism and Roblox to create new resources to help families with neurodivergent children learn and stay safe from scams within games.

There's a guide for parents, a video for children and young people, plus stories for families to read and discuss together to explore the risks, with practical actions for children to take to help stay protected.

[Find all the resources here.](#)

Online Safety Newsletter – DECEMBER NOW AVAILABLE

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

Discounted Family Fun upto half price off

Days Out including Chessington, Legoland 4 Kingdoms and more

AND MORE...

Gold membership is £5 per person per year which gives you access to a year's timetable of activities at upto 50% off and then our charity funds the difference.
[email activities@spotlightuk.org](mailto:activities@spotlightuk.org)

OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN OVERSEAS VOLUNTEERING TRIP

Following on from an assembly delivered to students about volunteering, I am pleased to announce that applications for Wyvern Team Romania 2027 open on 8th December.

In summer **2027**, we are planning to take a team of student volunteers to work with children in a **Roma Gypsy community**, partnering with the charity **Dare2Dream**—a family-led organisation that runs feeding programmes, youth work, and educational activities for local families.

As part of the trip, the team will deliver a **five-day programme of activities** for children aged **4–16**, offering creative sessions, group projects, and youth-club style workshops.

This is an opportunity to:

- Make a direct positive impact in an underserved community
- Build strong relationships with other students outside the classroom
- Experience meaningful international volunteering work
- Work alongside a dedicated charity with long-standing ties to the community

If your child would like to be considered for this trip, applications and permission must be received by 19th December 2025 (Please see ParentMail).

If you would like more information, **please contact me directly**. I'd be happy to answer any questions and share further details.

Kind regards,

Mr H Pannell

h.pannell@wyvern.hants.sch.uk

YEAR 7 NOTICES

VISIT FROM HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY.

As on Monday 8th December, WPC 3639 Buckland came in to speak to our Year 7's in Assembly about working in the Police Force and the career route including the Level 2/3 in Uniform Services and the Degree Apprenticeships that can be taken to get into the profession. Lots of great questions were set by Year and answered by WPC 3639 Buckland. [Click here to find out more.](#)

YEAR 8 NOTICES

MARWELL ZOO VISIT

The Geography Department has organised a visit for Year 8 students to **Marwell Zoo** on either Thursday 15th or Wednesday 21st January 2026 (exact students on each day will be confirmed when final numbers are in). The visit will coincide with the teaching of a unit on World Environments in Geography lessons.

During their visit students will follow the 'Adaptation Trail' which will guide them on a journey of discovery around the zoo. They will find out more about how different animals are suited to their environment. In addition, students will be examining the impact of the zoo as a tourist attraction and practicing GCSE fieldwork techniques. Students will be provided with tailored activity booklets to supplement their learning in lessons.

[Click here for more information and booking information.](#)

YEAR 9 NOTICES

BOOSTERS & VACCINATIONS

Your child's 3-in-1 Teenage Booster and Meningitis vaccinations are now due. These vaccines help protect against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Meningitis.

Follow the links below for the electronic form and information about the vaccines. Access to the form will close two working days prior to the session.

School Code: **SH138184**

Session date: **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd January 2026**

Year Group: **Year 9**

Link to form: <https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/DTP>

For further information: <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/hampshire/teenage-booster-tetanus-diphtheria-polio-meningitis/>

To choose **YES** or **NO** please complete the form to record your decision. Regular reminders will be sent to those that have not completed a form to ensure children do not miss their opportunity for vaccination.

From the NHS School Age Immunisation Service

YEAR 10 NOTICES

Some parents will have received contact this week as records show they have not completed a consent form, this academic year, to indicate a decision about their child's teenage booster and/or Meningitis vaccinations that were due in Year 9.

Follow the links below for the electronic form and information about the vaccines. Access to the form will close two working days prior to the session.

School Code: **SH138184**

Session date: **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd January 2026**

Year Group: **Year 9 - 11**

Link to form: <https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/DTP>

YEAR 11 NOTICES

Some parents will have received contact this week as records show they have not completed a consent form, this academic year, to indicate a decision about their child's teenage booster and/or Meningitis vaccinations that were due in Year 9.

Follow the links below for the electronic form and information about the vaccines. Access to the form will close two working days prior to the session.

School Code: **SH138184**

Session date: **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd January 2026**

Year Group: **Year 9 - 11**

Link to form: <https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/DTP>

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.