



Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Issue NUMBER 16 2025-2026

## DIARY DATES

January 15 <sup>th</sup>		Year 8 Geography Trip – Marwell Zoo
January 21st		Year 8 Geography Trip – Marwell Zoo
January 22 <sup>nd</sup>		Poetry Live – Year 11
January 24 <sup>th</sup>		DofE Silver Practice Walk
January 30 <sup>th</sup>		Fort Nelson – Year 8
January 31 <sup>st</sup> – February 1 <sup>st</sup>		Bronze DfE walk – New Forest
February 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Evening)
February 7th	12.30pm & 7.00pm	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Matinee and Evening)
March 12th		Vocal Festival

## Assemblies w/b 15/12/25 – House Assemblies

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you and your families. I hope you were able to enjoy the Christmas and new year festivities. It has been great seeing the students return to college this week and finding out what they have been doing. Many of them have looked tired: the very cold, wet, dark mornings do not help but we have the shortest day behind us now and we will hopefully soon start to see more daylight. We have had some students turning up without coats - please do remind your child to wear one in this cold weather.

As we start this new term, I thought I would remind you of the main improvement priorities we are working on this year and give you a progress report on how these are going.

### Attendance- More students in more lessons.

Every time a student misses a lesson, a learning gap is created, making it harder for students to access new learning in subsequent lessons and hindering their progress across sequences of lessons. The top national priority for the Department for Education is to increase the number of children in school every day. At Wyvern, we have been especially keen to do that for students with SEND, because in the last two years' SEND students attendance at Wyvern has been below the local, county and national averages. We saw pleasing improvements in attendance last term and it was significantly above national average for Years 8, 10 and 11. We still have work to do with Year 7 attendance in particular which is below average. SEND attendance is now significantly above national and local averages and has been the real success story this year. Getting more students into college each day is only half the job. We want to ensure that all the students who are in college spend all their lesson time in lesson – and that means looking at improving punctuality and minimising the number of times students leave lessons for any reason. We have seen a reduction in students leaving lessons to go to the toilet and use passes, but punctuality remains the next area we need to secure further improvements in.

### Greater teacher continuity in lessons

We have been working hard to reduce the number of cover lessons so that students have their normal teacher and teaching assistant in as many lessons as possible, so they have maximum amount of time with the subject specialist or LS specialist who knows them and their learning best. Last half term we saw a 43% reduction in the number of cover lessons compared to the same period past year. However, we want to further improve this, and we know that there are some students who have been affected by staff absence more than others.

## **More learning in lessons**

Here are working hard to raise the bar of what we can expect from students, in terms of their work. This is a bit like raising a high jump bar. Students aim for and rise the bar that's been set for them to clear, rarely aiming to go higher than the bar that's been set. Challenge is not a privilege for gifted students; it is an entitlement for all students at all attainment levels. In order to move forwards in their learning, students need the right balance of support and challenge ("healthy struggle") and teachers have had a lot of training on challenge this year - Monday's INSET was on this very issue. In the weeks ahead we will monitor lessons to see how the level of challenge is, and we will also be talking to sample groups of students to find out what they think about this too.

## **Less disruption to lessons**

We continue to tackle poor behaviour and the causes of poor behaviour. I am pleased that last term we saw a 41% reduction in behaviour points for defiance; and a 27% reduction in behaviour points for disruption in class compared to the same period last year. Suspensions and isolation are also significantly reduced. The behaviour support team now has several programmes to help those who need help to address the reasons for their negative behaviour and we are looking to set up an in-house alternative provision centre to provide more specialist and sustained support for students with the most complex social and emotional needs. We still want to see further improvements to in-class behaviour and this term we will be monitoring which classes are being awarded the most behaviour points and then visit these classrooms to find out why.

## **Greater progress across lessons**

Here we want to improve the way we use academic data like assessment results and test scores to better track which students are making progress and which ones are not, so that we can then address any underachievement early. The key stage 3 academic reports have been redesigned to give you a clearer picture of how well your child is doing compared to their starting points (end of Year 6), how well they are doing compared to national standards for their age and what they can do to improve. Looking a bit further into 2026, we do want to put in place systems for ensuring students can remember and retrieve essential knowledge long after they have been taught it. I often see great teaching and learning in my daily walks around the college, but we know there is sometimes great forgetting of all that which occurs afterwards. Helping students convert key learning to their long-term memory means the pressure is not quite so great in Year 11.

I hope this provides you with a snapshot of where the college is in terms of its improvement journey.

With all good wishes  
Mr Rule

## **LOCKDOWN DRILL**

Dear parents/carers,

This afternoon we conducted a lockdown drill in college. This was a drill to test our procedures, should we need to have a real Lockdown at any point in the future.

A lockdown is designed to keep students and staff safe from an identified problem. Although the word lockdown conjures up images of American high school shootings, and has the connotation of students being in serious danger, the reality is that a lockdown is likely to involve a lot less threat than that or likely to involve no threat at all but be done for practical reasons. We might need to initiate a lockdown because an unknown person is on the college site and is acting unpredictably. But it might be because of a severe weather event, including storms; a problem with the site e.g. a gas leak, broken window, that prevents usual movement around the site; an incident happening just outside the college site; a medical incident that requires clear passage for responders through the school or privacy for person who needs medical attention.

The government is clear that for security reasons, we need to have in place procedures for evacuation (our fire drill protocol) and lockdown. Students have been taught in tutor time what a lockdown involves, what they need to do during one and possible reasons why we might need to have one.

They will hear 10 short consecutive rings of the bell. Staff and students won't know why lockdown is happening, so we need everyone to act as if it is the worst-case scenario (an intruder looking to harm others) even though this is the least likely reason for lockdown. The teacher will stop the lesson immediately, lights will be turned off, including projectors. They will close the classroom door and lock it if possible. Students may be asked to move to a less visible part of the room. Everyone should remain silent and no student must use their mobile phone. Once the lockdown has ended, a second signal of 10 consecutive rings of the bell will sound. The purpose if a drill is to prepare students and staff for what to do in a real situation but also for us to identify any problems with our plan so we can put these right.

Mark Westlake  
Business Manager

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> January.
- Parent Ballot (if needed) will take place Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January to 12.00 on Monday 2nd February.

Votes will be counted on the afternoon of Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:clerk@wyvern.hants.sch.uk)

## COLLEGE CULTURE

House points as of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ROADWORK WARNING – MORTIMERS LANE

Works are scheduled to start mid-January 2026 and will be completed late Summer 2026, with permitted working hours between 7am and 8pm Monday to Friday and between 9:30am and 6:30pm Saturdays. There will also be a requirement for some night works towards the end of the project to complete resurfacing.

For the safety of the public and workers, one lane on Mortimers Lane will be closed 24/7 until the works are completed, with vehicles only able to travel eastbound from Winchester Road in Fair Oak towards Lower Upham.

Advance warning signs will be in place prior to the works starting. Emergency vehicle access will be maintained where possible. Please visit [Causeway one.network](https://causewayone.network) to view the suggested diversion route and the exact location of the works.

The nature of the work may bring some disruption or inconvenience; however, every effort will be made to keep this to a minimum. Please note that all works are weather-dependent and may be subject to change at short notice.

Please visit the scheme web page for a comprehensive overview of the scheme, including phasing, working hours, and indicative timelines; [Fair Oak walking and cycling improvements](https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/fair-oak-walking-and-cycling-improvements) | [Transport and roads](https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport-and-roads) | [Hampshire County Council](https://www.hants.gov.uk/hampshire-county-council)



Our book which is made up of contributions from young writers and artists from across Fair Oak, Bishopstoke and beyond is selling fast! It is available from the library during opening hours (cash or card) or email [hello@fairoakcommunitylibrary.org](mailto:hello@fairoakcommunitylibrary.org) and ask for a copy to be reserved.

Also, a date has been set for all who participated along with parents and carers. There will be a reception, some awards and a chance for us to meet you all! It will be on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 3:00pm at the Woodlands Centre, Saverneke Way, Fair Oak.

A new Lego activity group is starting this Saturday – children of all ages welcome



### WHAT TO MAKE?

Come along to our Construction Zone and see what you can make



Every Saturday in the Library from 10am – 12 noon



A BOOK OF LOCAL YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS



## CAREERS NEWS

### UNIFROG SEMINARS

#### Computer science taster: how will AI and cyber change future careers?



##### Virtual

Step into the future with the University of Law and discover how artificial intelligence and cybersecurity are transforming industries, careers, and the way we live and work. You'll gain valuable insights into emerging trends, future opportunities, and the skills to get ahead in a rapidly evolving tech landscape. If you're interested in computer science, AI, or tech, don't miss this chance to learn how you can be part of the next big wave in technology.

Monday 12 January @ 17:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#) or [Share](#)

#### History taster: exploring resistance against the Nazis

##### Virtual

Dive into some of the most gripping true stories in history with Queen Mary, University of London. You'll discover how ordinary people in France stood up to the rise of Nazi power through bold acts of resistance, undercover networks, and creative sabotage. If you're considering studying history at university, don't miss this special insight into real history lectures!

Wednesday 14 January @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#) or [Share](#)



#### 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**

## WELLBEING, SAFETY & SUPPORT

### Online Safety Newsletter – JANUARY 2026

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



### SCHOOL PRODUCTION 2026

We're excited to announce that tickets for our upcoming production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory go on sale this Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 

Tickets are expected to sell quickly, so we recommend grabbing yours as soon as they're available to avoid missing out on this magical show.  
You can purchase tickets here:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/eastleigh/wyvern-college>

We can't wait to welcome you to the performance and share this wonderful experience with you.

### NEWS ROUND UP

Students have been busy fundraising in a variety of ways to support the school production (see above) and we want to say thanks to the following fundraisers:

- Zara - £26 - Brownie Bake sale
- Mia - £25 - Bracelet making & biscuit making
- Meg - £30 - Book sale
- Leila - £60 - Designed cards, selling items on vinted, crafting a card, designing folder logos
- Lucas - £50 - Sponsored run

Sherlock Holmes and Dr John Watson were back in the building this week as our Year 7 transition groups took part in a Sherlock Escape Room activity.

An absolutely outstanding achievement for Arran in Year 11- achieving a distinction in his Grade 8 trumpet just before Christmas with a score of 89/100! Congratulations.

### STOP PRESS



The Winter edition of our Student Newsletter is now available on our website. Click on the logo to the left to access.



The Autumn edition of **thisTerm@Wyvern** is now in the Latest News section of our website, or you can click on the button (left). It is a round up of some familiar and a lot of news stories about activities and events that have happened in the college this term. You will also be able to enjoy pictures from our festive period, including this week's concerts.



## YEAR 7 NOTICES

No notices this week

## YEAR 8 NOTICES

No notices this week

## YEAR 9 NOTICES

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to inform you that during this term Yr 9 will be undertaking a unit on Sex and Relationships Education as part of their Religious and Personal Studies (R.P.S.) lessons.

Sex and Relationships Education forms an important part of the R.P.S. programme. The lessons should build upon previous knowledge and be informative and educational, thus enabling students to make informed decisions in the future. I would like to highlight the topics that are being covered so that you can be prepared for any questions your child may ask at home. Although these lessons are obviously guided by the teacher, sessions are often led by the questioning from students so please be aware that lessons are not limited to solely these topics and other areas may be discussed. Each session will use a variety of resources ranging from books, worksheets, PowerPoints, and videos.

The lessons will cover topics such as peer pressure, the law, the reproductive system, fertility, contraception, sexually transmitted infections, consent and self-examination. The aim of these lessons is to give students the knowledge necessary to enable them to make informed choices for themselves in the future.

Under Section 405 of the Education Act 1996, all parents or carers have the right to withdraw children from Sex and Relationship Education lessons (up to and until 3 terms before the child turns 16), with the exception of that which occurs as part of the National Curriculum in Science. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the Headteacher and myself.

For more details, please read our policy on Sex and Relationships Education which is available on the college website.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Adams  
Curriculum Leader RPS

## 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 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## YEAR 10 NOTICES

Some parents will have received contact 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 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026**

Year Group: **Year 9 - 11**

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

## YEAR 11 NOTICES

We hope you had a restful break. We are now quickly approaching the public exams, most of which begin in May 2026.

This week, colleagues are finalising the marking and data entry for the first set of trial exams completed last term. Once this is complete, we will collate revised Projected Final Grades based on exam performance, and an updated data sheet will be published within the next week or so.

We will also be offering a range of Period 6 revision lessons starting the week beginning 19th January, running in the lead-up to half term and the second set of trial exams. You will receive the schedule in advance so that your son/daughter can plan which sessions they would like to attend. We will also aim to display these on Edulink for visibility and to record attendance.

The second set of Year 11 trial exams is scheduled to take place from Tuesday 25th February to Friday 28th February. These exams will cover core subjects only (English, Maths, and Science). Students will be off their normal timetable on these dates to attend their exams. After the second exam of the day, they may either go home or use a study room during Period 5.

The timetable is available on the school website, and a copy is attached for your reference: [Year-11-Trial-Exams-February-2026.pdf](#)

Thank you for your continued support as we prepare for this important stage of Year 11.

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Wyvern  
College

ROALD DAHL's  
**CHARLIE**  
AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Thursday 5th February 7.00 pm

Friday 6th February 7.00 pm

Saturday 7th February 12.30pm & 7.00pm

Roald Dahl's  
**CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**

Book by  
David Greig  
Music by  
Marc Shaiman  
Lyrics by  
Scott Wittman  
Marc Shaiman

Based on the novel by ROALD DAHL  
Songs from the Motion Picture by  
LESLIE BROCUSSE and ANTHONY NEWLEY

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtihouse.co.uk](http://www.mtihouse.co.uk)



Tickets on sale from 9th January 2026

Use the QR code or go to [www.ticketsource.co.uk/wyvern-college](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wyvern-college)