



Thursday 27th February 2025

Issue NUMBER 22 2024-2025

DIARY DATES

Thursday 27 th February		Year 8 Parents Evening
Tues 4 th - Wed 5 th March		Year 9 Immunisations
Thursday 6 th March		World Book Day
13 th March	18.00	Pyramid Vocal Festival – Thornden Hall
Thursday 20 th March	18:00	GCSE Music Showcase
21 st March		Non-Uniform Day – for Simon Says
26 th March	16.00-19.00	Year 11 Virtual Parents Meeting
4 th April		Last day of Spring Term

Dear parents and carers,

It has been good to welcome students back to college this week and to find out what they got up to over the half term break. Year 11 students have been completing their second set of trials exams in the core subjects, which will give us updated assessment information and which will give them more detailed feedback which help them focus their revision efforts in the weeks ahead. Yes 8 parents' evening is tonight and for those of us who teach year 8 it will be a good opportunity to further discuss option choices, as well as progress and behaviour more generally.

Curriculum Progress and Achievement Points

Last week's break marks the halfway point in the academic year. At the start of the year, I encouraged you to look at the curriculum booklets for your child's year group. These contain the learning journey for each subject - the sequence of what students study, as well as suggested "super-curricular" activities that students can do outside of college in those subjects they really enjoy.

At this halfway point in the year, it is worth you taking a look at the learning journeys again to see what students have studied and what their current topics are, as well as which super-curricular activities you might encourage them to complete. You can find the information here. [Curriculum Overview - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#).

It is also worth reflecting with your child on how they are doing with their achievement points and, perhaps, where appropriate, rewarding them with something at home to show them you are proud of how they have conducted themselves. You might be thinking, what does 350 achievement points mean? It means that your child has consistently, in lesson after lesson, week after week, been demonstrating the full set of PRiDe expectations across the curriculum in different subjects: being prepared respectful, involved and dedicated; listening in silence, waiting their turn to speak, actively contributing ideas to discussion, asking and answering questions, acting on feedback, being polite and kind.

We believe that students should not just be rewarded for significant one-off achievements but should be rewarded for their ongoing commitment to their education. Although staff are more consistent than previously on issuing achievement points, I recognise that we do still have some inconsistency to address, especially with tutors giving points for 100% attendance each week and 100% punctuality each week.

Vapes

We have recently changed our policy on confiscated vapes. Previously, college staff kept these in reception for parents to collect after they had been confiscated. From now, on, the college will not be returning vapes to parents but will dispose of them instead. The college's power to search students and confiscate items is [set out here](#) and allows staff to decide whether or not to return, retain or dispose of any items banned under the school rules.

Safeguarding Update - AI

This week's safeguarding update is about artificial intelligence which has seen significant developments recently with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to their existing apps. One form of AI which has become especially popular is the AI friend or chatbot. There are now many "virtual friend" apps available, and more are likely to develop. AI chatbots may not always recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and as a result, children could be exposed to explicit material.

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could reduce their face-to-face communication time. Chatbots do collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. AI companions are only as reliable as the information they've been programmed with and the algorithms they use may unintentionally promote stereotypes or bias.

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI, then it is worth asking them what they know about AI as a lead into a general conversation to discover what AI apps they might be aware of or planning to use. We are already aware that some students are using AI to do homework tasks for them. Please do monitor this carefully, as students will not gain the learning the tasks are designed to stimulate if they get AI to complete the tasks for them.

With best wishes
Mr Rule

VACANCIES: To see our current vacancies – please go to [Recruitment - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

DEVOLUTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Are you aware that there are proposals for a massive re-organisation of councils in Hampshire? This will have far reaching effects and public views are now being sought.

A public consultation is now open until the 13th April 2025.

This consultation seeks views on a proposal to form a Mayoral Combined County Authority for the local government areas in Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Isle of Wight Council, and Southampton City Council (referred to as Hampshire and the Solent in this consultation).

In December 2024, the government published the English Devolution White Paper. This sets out plans to move power out of Westminster and back to local communities, ensuring that every part of England is covered by devolution. The local council leaders from Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Isle of Wight Council, and Southampton City Council have since written to government expressing their interest in taking forward devolution within their area through the establishment of a Mayoral Combined County Authority, with the first election for a mayor taking place in May 2026. Before taking a decision on whether to proceed with the making of the necessary legislation, the government is seeking views from interested parties, including those who live and work in the area.

[Click here to access the consultation.](#)

FAIR AOK COMMUNITY ORCHID PLANTING – 1st MARCH

To find out more and about other community events go to <https://www.fairoakgreening.org/communityevents>

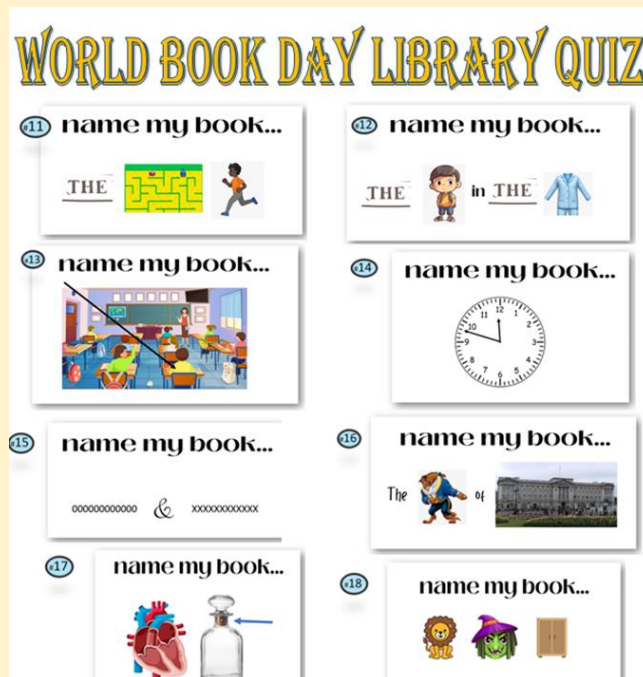
IMPORTANT UPDATE: PARK AND STRIDE AT THE LAPSTONE

It has come to our attention that some parents have recently received parking fines after using The Lapstone Pub car park for the Park and Stride. We were not notified in advance of any changes to this arrangement, but we have now written to The Lapstone to request confirmation of their current stance on Park and Stride. In addition, we have asked if they would consider waiving any fines incurred up to the end of this school week, allowing us time to update parents accordingly. We are currently awaiting their response and will provide a further update as soon as we hear back. In the meantime, we appreciate your patience and understanding.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT helped us raise £1000 through the Tesco Stronger Start token drive.

LIBRARY NEWS

WORLD BOOK DAY 6TH MARCH



Fair Oak Community Library – Young People's Book Club

Pauline Pearce from Fair Community Oak library asked if we could promote a book club for young people that she would like to start in Fair Oak library. [Click here for a flyer with more information and contact details.](#)

GENERAL NOTICES

SITE VEHICLE USAGE

Much progress has been made over the past year to improve site safety and security. This has made a great deal of difference to all campus users and has made the campus a safe and pleasant place to move around.

One aspect that we are noticing more frequently now, is that when vehicles are accessing the site and waiting to collect children of all ages at different times of the day, the vehicles engines are often left running. Whilst this might be convenient for the vehicle users it is creating necessary noise and pollution on our campus.

We therefore would ask that if you are authorised to drive on site or use the site for a legitimate reason, vehicle engines are switched off once you are stationary and parked in a safe place.

Thank you for your cooperation

UPCOMING VACCINATIONS

The Year 9 teenage boosters are being held at college on 04th & 05th March.

PLEASE SEE YEAR 9 NOTICES FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

[Click here to see the latest edition of our Online Safety Newsletter.](#) You can also access previous editions by going to [Keeping Students Safe - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care.](#)

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DAY

Come along to the University of Southampton annual Science and Engineering Day on Saturday 15th March on the Highfield and Boldrewood campuses, its free and open to all ages! Join astronomers in our inflatable planetarium, help Wonderseeks to test new rocket fuels, discover growing plants in water at a hydroponics workshop, learn how crystals and slime can be made with our Chemists, see how lasers can save coral reefs from pollution, find out where different noises come from with our Aeroacoustics team, learn about fossils and minerals, take part in an art, poetry or music workshop – and loads more, there is something for everyone, including quiet rooms for those who might need some quite time for a sensory break before joining the next activity. All the information including what's on, how to register for your free tickets and where to find us is at www.sotsef.co.uk we look forward to seeing you! [Click here for more.](#)

COME & PLAY – SPACE ADVENTURE

Young musician ae welcome to join the Eastleigh Area Ensembles for a come and play event on Monday 31st March 2025. There will be a 40-minute concert followed by a concert at 7.30. This is a massed performance of a piece written for beginners right up to experienced ensemble players; please see the attached poster. It is part of the EASO Spring concert, at Thornden Hall on 31 March 2025 and will involve all the groups at the centre and lots of children who have never played in a band or orchestra before. [To find out more click here.](#)

CAMHS YOUNG PERSON PHOTO COMPETITION

A competition.....with fab prizes. The theme is "Connections" which is a part of their campaign this year "Connect 2 Thrive in 25" – aimed at encouraging young people to understand the importance of connections and connecting in its various ways. This competition is an opportunity for young people to express and reflect this in a creative way. [Please click here for more details.](#)

JUNIOR BAKE OFF ENTRIES – NOW OPEN

We are looking for young budding bakers between 9-15 years old. Filming would take place from July 2025, but our applications close on Sunday 23rd March 2025. Please do feel free to contact us on 0207 067 4833, should you have any questions regarding the above.

Interested bakers can apply online at
- www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk

Best wishes,
The Junior Bake Off Team
enquiries: applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk



BARTON PEVERIL ART COMPETITION

Barton Peveril is holding an Art Competition and would like all students to join in.
The competition will run between 3rd February 2025 - 22nd April 2025.

Year 9,10 & 11:

- 1st Place winner will receive a £100 Amazon Gift Card.

- Two Runners Up will receive a £25 Amazon Gift Card.

Year 7 & 8:

- 1st Place winner will receive a £100 Amazon Gift Card.
- Two Runners Up will receive a £25 Amazon Gift Card.

Please see [here](#) to find out more information about the art competition.

If your students have any questions, please ask them to email artcompetition@barton.ac.uk

CAREERS NEWS

UNIFROG

Has your child logged into Unifrog yet?

Unifrog is a universal destinations platform, designed to support students in making informed decisions about their futures, and has tools suitable for all year groups. Each student has their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them. They can take quizzes, search for information on specific subjects or careers, make shortlists of the things that interest, and get help writing CVs, cover letters, personal statements and more. They will also be able to keep a record of all relevant Careers activities and learning they do in school. [Click here for a logging in guide.](#)

UNIFROG UPCOMING WEBINARS

Shaping the future: inspiring women in STEM

Virtual

Join us for this special webinar celebrating the International Women's Day 2025 theme of accelerate action and empowerment! Hear from three inspiring women who are working in STEM fields. Find out more about their roles, what a typical day looks like, and what advice they'd give you to begin your own inspiring career.

Tuesday 11 March @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

Meet the students virtual fair: what is university really like?

Virtual

Current university students are taking over the fair to tell you their honest experiences and things they wish they'd known! Chat to students and staff at 30 universities in just two hours to get your questions answered. Get insider tips during live sessions on extracurricular activities to boost your personal statement, the best student bank accounts, what to pack, and how to prepare for living away from home.

Wednesday 26 March @ 16:00 UK time - 2hrs 30 mins - [sign up](#)

RAILWAY 200 LEARNING RESOURCES.

A new teacher and parent toolkit has been launched to inspire more young people to consider a career in the railway. It's been developed as part of a national campaign, called Railway 200, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the modern railway, and is believed to be the biggest educational resource in the rail industry.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

BAE SYSTEMS 2025 APPRENTICESHIPS

Close for application 28 February 2025

We've got an apprenticeship to suit everyone, from school or college leavers to career changes.

With a competitive salary in a secure and thriving sector, you can expect hands-on experience and world-class training. All while gaining fully-funded, industry recognised qualification in engineering, business, technology or manufacturing and operations.

It's a supportive and inclusive culture where you'll have all the opportunities you need for your talent to shine.

Discover what's possible by applying now: [CLICK HERE](#)

Applications close 28 February 2025

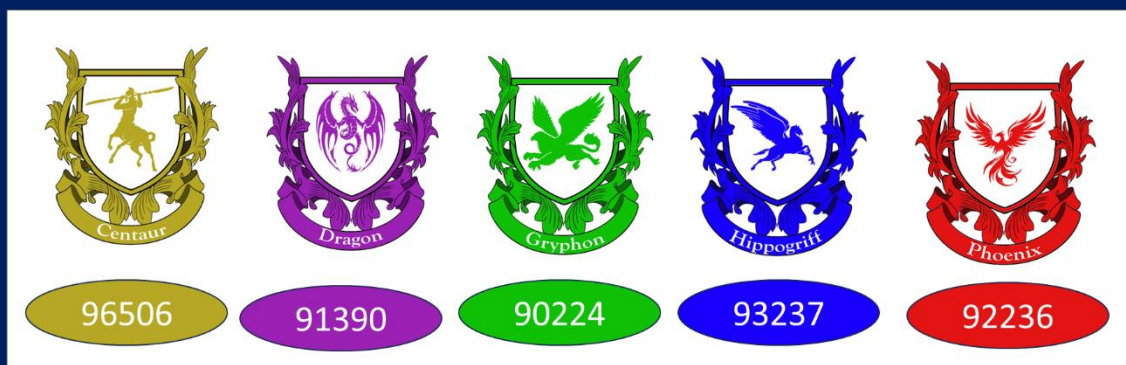
maritimeeducation@baesystems.com

ROOKWOOD SCHOOLS 6TH FORM SCHOLARSHIP

Rookwood School in Andover have launched a Sixth Form Scholarship Programme to offer significant financial support to high-achieving students who are expected to achieve Grade 7 or above at GCSE in their chosen A Level subjects. As part of this initiative, they will be hosting a Scholarship Day from 09.00 – 12.00 on Saturday 22nd March.

Rookwood Sixth Form is ideal for academically driven students who would thrive in a smaller, more personalised learning environment. For more info: <https://rookwoodschool.org/sixth-form-scholarships-at-rookwood/>

COLLEGE CULTURE – House Points 27th February 2025



YEAR 7 NOTICES

No notices this week

Year 7 Team

YEAR 8 NOTICES

Year 8 Options 2025

Following the subject parents evening on Thursday 27th February Options Forms will be issued to students. As a reminder the deadline for handing in the forms is Friday March 14th.

It is NOT first come first served so there is no rush handing the form in. However, I will accept forms at any time prior to 14th March.

If a student loses their form, I can provide a new one and if anyone would like any advice / guidance about options please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards
Simon Stocks
Deputy Headteacher

Hello

I hope that everyone had a wonderful half term and managed to avoid the many illnesses currently around. Year 8s have had a very positive return overall this week and the vast majority are looking smart and have been ready to learn – well done! I would please ask for your support in ensuring that your child brings their logbook to college every day and that you remind to do this as much as possible. Our systems mean that if a student

has no logbook (and they have not collected a logbook page) more than one breach of PRIDE in a lesson will escalate more quickly to C3 sanctions. I teach Y8 and am constantly nagging them about this so would really appreciate your support.

As I write this, I am looking forward to seeing some of you this evening at the Year 8 Parents Evening which I believe to be the most important Parents Evening to date for your children as they embark on the process of choosing their options to study at GCSE. The options form is being issued tomorrow as I am sure you're aware. I hope you all have informative conversations with my colleagues about your child in their subject area. Praise news from the week before half term - I would like to congratulate 8G2 for earning the highest number of P1s last week (401), closely followed by C2 (370) and in third place H1 (327). The leader board for students this term is as follows Alex in C2 was in first place with 62 P1s, Finley from G2 with 49 P1s and in third place Rowan from C2 with 35 points – excellent work!

Mrs Howard
Year 8 Pastoral Leader

YEAR 9 NOTICES

Year 9 Teenage Booster Vaccination

PLEASE CAN ALL YEAR 9 PARENTS NOTE

The school age immunisation nursing team is visiting Wyvern, Tuesday 04th March and Wednesday 05th March, to administer the Teenage Boosters vaccinations for Diphtheria/Tetanus/Polis & Meningitis ACWY to all Year 9 students.

For your child to receive this vaccination, an E consent form will need completing.

Click the link below for the consent form and information about the vaccine. Access to the consent forms will close Monday 3rd March at 09.00 am

- **School Code:** SH138184
- **Session date:** Tuesday 04th and Wednesday 05th March 2024
- **Link to website:** [Teenage Booster : Hampshire Healthy Families](#)

If you have any queries about the immunisation could they please contact the South West Immunisation team on southwesthantsimmunisationteam@southernhealth.nhs.uk

If your child has any concerns about receiving the vaccination on the day, please contact welfare@wyvern.hants.sch.uk

Please can we signpost parents to the following information regarding this programme.
<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/school-age-immunisations>

YEAR 10 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 11 NOTICES

Period 6 Revision Sessions

Please check for any updates to our *Extra-curricular Support Sessions* section on the [Exam Website Page](#) for the Period 6 timetable.