



Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Issue NUMBER 23 2024-2025

## DIARY DATES

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March		World Book Day
13 <sup>th</sup> March	18.00	Pyramid Vocal Festival – Thornden Hall
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	18:00	GCSE Music Showcase
21 <sup>st</sup> March		Non-Uniform Day – for Simon Says
26 <sup>th</sup> March	16.00-19.00	Year 11 Virtual Parents Meeting
4 <sup>th</sup> April		Last day of Spring Term

Dear parents and carers,

Today is World Book Day! Many members of staff have come into college today dressed as a character from their favourite book and they have shared with students in lessons extracts from that book. I have been dressed for most of the day as Inspector Goole, a character from the play that many of you will have studied for your English Literature GCSE: *An Inspector Calls*. The quote I have been sharing from this play is one that we have also got on display in the quad:



**“We don’t live alone. We are all members of one body. We are responsible for each other.”**

**J. B. PRIESTLEY**

This quote reminds us that we do have a social responsibility to look after one another, not just friends and family, but all humans who we encounter in our lives. Our approach to education at Wyvern is summed up by the words *think grow care* and a common theme of our assembly and tutor time programmes is that just by being human beings we have a responsibility to look after other humans.

We need children to read more. The most obvious benefit of reading is that it develops students’ literacy and language skills. As a result of reading, students are better able to understand other things they read, can read more quickly and accurately, can expand their vocabulary and understand how to express themselves better, both orally and as writers. It is important for students to read a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction to better understand how language can be used and to encounter different sets of vocabulary. In reception we have the quote from Joseph Addison, “reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.” We also know that reading helps students understand other people, to show empathy and to appreciate other people’s perspectives. When they read, students understand what characters are thinking and feeling and why they make the decisions they do. I do also believe that when they escape into imaginary worlds, their creativity increases; when they read for pleasure, their wellbeing improves.

Teenagers do not read enough or rather their reading patterns have changed, with social media, phones and games replacing books. The Scottish Book Trust has some useful advice on how we can all encourage children to read more. [Advice for parents to encourage children and teens reading - Scottish Book Trust](#) .

Some students join us in year 7 below age related expectations in reading. We assess these students in the last few weeks of year 6 and then design a bespoke curriculum for them. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Harder and Mrs Moon teaching them and the students have made remarkable progress in their reading. Some of the students joining us with reading ages of 8 and below have made over 4 years of

progress in years 7-8 and we are especially proud of one of the students whose recent assessment showed he has now got a reading age of 16! Interestingly, Mrs Moon tells me that the things that make the biggest difference to progress here are attendance (missing lessons creates gaps in learning) and reading at home.

With best wishes  
Mr Rule

**Our staff have been celebrating World Book Day**

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
6 MARCH 2025





**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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.](#)

### WYVERN COLLEGE STUDENTS SUPPORT EASTLEIGH BASICS BANK

Students at Wyvern College have come together to support the local community by collecting donations for the Eastleigh Basics Bank. As part of a school-wide initiative, students were encouraged to bring in an item to help families in need.

The Eastleigh Basics Bank provides essential food and supplies to local families facing difficult times, and the students' generosity will help make a real difference. Contributions included tinned goods, pasta, rice, and other staple foods, ensuring that those struggling have access to nutritious meals.



It's fantastic to see our students come together for such an important cause. Their donations will directly support local families, and we're incredibly proud of their efforts. Many thanks to everyone who donated and supported the donation drive.

The school hopes to continue working with the Eastleigh Basics Bank in the future, reinforcing the importance of generosity and compassion within the Wyvern College community.

## POTHOLE SURVEY

For our Active Citizenship project, we have decided to campaign about the pothole problem in our local area and country as a whole. We all personally believe that potholes are a major reason for many roadside accidents, and the payments individuals make after an accident involving them are completely unnecessary as the quality of the roads should be upheld by our local councils and our government.

So, if you could please fill out our survey that would be most appreciated.



[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ThFFW9zj\\_guWwG1qubHLifhhlbL-D4XpDxRpPNwpOUo/edit?pli=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ThFFW9zj_guWwG1qubHLifhhlbL-D4XpDxRpPNwpOUo/edit?pli=1)

## VOCAL FESTIVAL CHOIR “ON TOUR”

Miss Wood took 10 singers from the Wyvern choir out ‘on tour’ to the Cluster primary schools last week. The students led vocal workshops at Upham, Durley, Stoke Park infants and Juniors, Fair Oak Infants and Juniors in preparation for the vocal festival next Thursday 13th March. The Wyvern singers: Rosie, Mia, Sophia, Esther, Sienna, Amelia, Ella, Eva, Issy and Teagan were fantastic- leading with confidence and taking on the role of singing ambassadors for the school. We are very excited for the performances next week at Thornden Hall which will involve around 200 voices coming together in song.



## GENERAL NOTICES

### NON-UNIFORM DAY FOR SIMON SAYS

We would like to raise money for Simon Says – a Hampshire charity that helps children who are dealing with the death of someone close. They may feel angry, guilty, frightened and alone. It can be very difficult for a parent, carer, close relative or friend to help a bereaved child when they are grieving, and this charity looks to provide support and resources.

We ask parents to contribute to charity using either through Parentmail or cash on the day.



### 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 unnecessary 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

### 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.sotsef.co.uk) we look forward to seeing you! [Click here for more.](#)

### COME & PLAY – SPACE ADVENTURE

Young musician are welcome to join the Eastleigh Area Ensembles for a come and play event on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> 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.](#)

### ROCK 2 THE BEAT

Join a band and further your instrumental skills as you learn to perform songs as an ensemble whilst taking part in specialist workshops from our experienced Rock & Pop teachers

Suitable for children in Years 3 – 10 who currently participate in Rock 2 the Beat lessons in school, or for children who currently learn voice, electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, or drums at Grade 1 (or above) and are able to read basic notation. The price of the 2 day course is £75.

If you would like to come along, please sign up using the following link: [Rock 2 the Beat Enrichment Days – 7 and 8 April 2025](#)

### CAREERS NEWS

#### Careers Week Report

This week I achieved over 15,000 steps per day, as I have been walking all over the College, as its Career Week! All years had at least one experience from an employer as we had over 6 visitors present in the assembly this week. Plus we had over 50 visitors coming into the classrooms doing a variety of activities and presentations to all years.

For the first time this year we also put on a range of individual sessions in our dance studio, and we got our students to book themselves onto a range of workshops, that interested them through Edulink. The companies invited to the studio were Wyvern Nursery, Winchester University, BAE Systems, The Royal Army, Williams Garage, 3BP Law, Southampton University Health and Science Department and the Hampshire Job Centre Plus Team.

NC2 Engineering started the week with two back-to-back sessions in the science department, as they did hour sessions on the lines of an escape room. Each class was divided into 5 teams, and they were timed to solve a variety of puzzles. The winners unlocked the safe to discover a box of sweet treats!

It has been a busy yet fun week, seeing student exploring the world of carers from local employers. Thank you to everyone one who took part, I really appreciated it.

Kind Regards  
Mrs Gough



## UNIFROG UPCOMING WEBINARS

### How to find the job you want Virtual

Once you have decided on your perfect career, what are the next steps to help you get the job you want? Our webinar led by professional experts from Schroders, Unifrog and PwC will discuss where to find job information, what options are available in the world of work and how to know they are the right fit for you, and tips on how to ace your application to start your career journey.  
Tuesday 4 March @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

### Student fees and funding at university Virtual

#### [Part of Student Money Week](#)

Not sure how student fees and finance works? Join this webinar to find out more about the fees and loans when studying at university in the UK. Hear from universities to discover more information about what loans and bursaries are available to help fund your studies, and what the differences are between the two, and find out more about scholarships, what they are and how to find them.

Wednesday 5 March @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

### 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](#)

**SETA – Engineering Apprenticeships** – [click here for details of the latest apprenticeships, ready for application.](#)

### **DIPLOMA OPEN DAY**

Find out more about the NCFE Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport and Physical Activity (Outdoors). An open day will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> August – Andrew Simpson Centre – Portsmouth. [Click here for more.](#)

## COLLEGE CULTURE – House Points 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025





## YEAR 7 NOTICES

Year 7 have returned to school in high spirits and have quickly settled back into the routine and structure of life at Wyvern. After chatting to my Year 7 classes, it sounds as though everyone has had a lovely half term break with lots of fun had by all.

The charity reps have met and are currently working with their tutor groups to plan their activities. The first main charity event is going to be the Easter Egg tombola. For this we are asking for every pupil in year 7 to bring in an Easter Egg that we will then use in our tombola in the last week of term. These can be any size or make but the more we have, the money we can raise. Please can you ask pupils to bring their donations up to the Year Office before school. The second phase of our charity endeavours will be making May our charity month. The pupils will be working together in tutor groups to plan individual fund-raising exploits with the focus of every pupil aiming to raise a minimum of £7.00 (the thought being that this will rise by a pound each year in line with their year group number). Please feel free to discuss ideas around the dinner table and encourage conversations about fundraising, charity and putting others before ourselves.

I would like to congratulate this week the following pupils who have achieved the highest number of points for being kind and helpful - which fits in beautifully with our 'thinking of others before yourself' focus. Well done and keep up the good work to Alexa (7C2), Esther (7G2) and Rosa (7H1).

As always thank you for your continued support with regards to uniform and attendance - it does really make a difference if there is shared and consistent message coming from both home and school.

Mrs Tayloer-Watson  
Year 7 Pastoral Leader

## YEAR 8 NOTICES

### Year 8 Options 2025

Following the subject parents evening on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February Options Forms will be issued to students.

As a reminder the deadline for handing in the forms is Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>.

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 14<sup>th</sup> 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

What a wonderful week of sunshine we have had. I hope you all managed to enjoy it last weekend and although we have had some cold mornings, everything feels a bit better with some sunshine. I wonder if that might be why a larger number of Year 8s than I would like, have been forgetting to bring their tie this week which has generated some discontent.

May I please remind you that if there is any issue relating to your child's uniform, you should write a note explaining the issue and when it will be resolved which your child can give directly to their tutor to sign. This avoids unnecessary POW ticks and ultimately sanctions for repeated uniform issues. Please don't rely on sending this via email either as we have a 48-hour window to receive and address email communications and tutors are teaching most of the day. If a member of staff is absent, the email may not be picked up at all

therefore a note in the logbook or on a piece of paper with that day's date on will really support your child in managing the situation. Thank you.

Options forms have been distributed and I know how much thought Y8s are putting into this decision which is great to see.

In praise news last week, I would like to congratulate 8H1 for earning the highest number of P1s last week (589), closely followed by D1 (539) and in third place D2 (521) – not much in it at all for these tutor groups – well done! The leader board for students last week is as follows Ollie H1 was in first place with 51 P1s, Steph from G1 with 48 P1s and in third place Isaac from C1 with 47 points. Again, close and there were plenty of other Year 8s not far behind this either – well done Year 8 and keep up the excellent PRIDE!

Finally, we will have our Easter celebration assembly towards the end of this half term, and I would greatly appreciate any chocolate donations for this event. Please send your child to my office or just drop any offerings off at reception. We will welcome any donation, big or small, for the chocolate raffle in Year 8 assembly.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Howard  
Year 8 Pastoral Leader

#### **YEAR 9 NOTICES**

No notice this week

#### **YEAR 10 NOTICES**

No notices this week.

#### **YEAR 11 NOTICES**

##### **EXAMS & REVISION**

Following the very successful trial exams in English, Maths and Science last week we now have a window when colleagues are marking and moderating scripts, entering data and feeding back to students in the classroom. Our main Period 6 programme will then re-start from the week beginning 17th March and the schedule will be published in advance each week.

In addition, we will be offering some pre-exam revision sessions in May and June as well as some Saturday School Sessions and I hope to be able to give you more information, including the final programme in advance of the Parent Evening later this month.

Simon Stocks  
Deputy Headteacher