



Thursday 24th April 2025

Issue NUMBER 28 2024-2025

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 29 th April	4.30-6.30pm	Year 7 Non-Core Parents Evening
Saturday 3 rd May	10.00-11.30am	Year 11 Revision Series – Citizenship
Monday 5 th May		Bank Holiday
Tuesday 6 th May		Year 9 Parliament & Supreme Court visit
Saturday 10 th May	9.00am-12.30pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Maths
Monday 12 th May	4.00-6.00pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Thursday 15 th May	3.15-5.10pm	Year 11 Revision Series – History
Friday 16 th May	4.00-6.00pm	Year 11 Revision Series – PE
26 th – 30 th May		Year 11 Summer Half Term Holiday
Saturday 17 th May	10.00-11.30am	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Tuesday 20 th May	3.15-4.15pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Geography
Wednesday 21 st May	4.00-5.30pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Saturday 31 st May	9.00-10.30am	Year 11 Revision Series – Science

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome your children back to college this week. We wish Year 11 all the very best with their exams which start with the German and Spanish speaking exams. Students have returned looking very smart and with a good attitude.

Over the Easter break I did catch up on some TV and I watched the drama Adolescence; many Wyvern staff and students had asked me about this in the last few weeks of term. By the time I watched it, 66 million others had done so, and it was being discussed widely. The Prime Minister then joined in this discussion, recommending it as a classroom resource for students to watch, to help educate them on the dangers of misogyny and violence against women. Certainly, it is a very powerful drama with some superb acting and it has got many people talking about several important issues: violence against women, incel culture, online radicalisation and the dangers of children having unregulated access to the internet. It challenges us as educators and parents about the content children are accessing online and how this is shaping their views. Some parents have contacted the college to suggest we do show it to students while others have contacted us to say they do not want us to. So, this is a good opportunity to write about how we decide what is appropriate material to show students and what is not.

We use media clips with students in lessons and in assemblies. These can deal with particularly sensitive and controversial topics, especially in subjects like Drama, English, History, RPS, Science, Health & social Care. The first thing for us to get right is to ensure things are age appropriate. We use the British Board of Film Classification's guidance to decide whether content is suitable for children who are not yet 12, or not yet 15 or not yet 18. The BBFC issues age classifications of u, PG, 12, 12A, 15 and 18. It clearly cannot classify everything and there are many resources that have not been classified. Very helpfully, the BBFC publishes its criteria for deciding these classifications which we use to decide if something is appropriate. You can read about these here [Age ratings and film classification | BBFC](#). By basing decisions on this criteria, we can ensure content is compliant, age appropriate and legal. Different parents will have different expectations and views about what they think is suitable for their child to view and clearly it would be unmanageable for us to allow parents to opt in and opt out of different aspects of the curriculum based on their personal views. Instead, we use the BBFC as the one single point of reference for deciding what is age appropriate.

Our second consideration for deciding what is appropriate to show students is a safeguarding one. We try very hard to not show things where there is a danger that many students might find the content disturbing or distressing, especially if it has the power to trigger trauma for students who have experienced or witnessed the issues which are being covered. Our view is that for these types of media, students should have the right or

choice to not watch something and parents should have the right to decide that too: these media are therefore better suited to home watching rather than classroom watching.

The drama Adolescence has an age rating of 15 which means we would be breaking the law by showing it to students in years 7-9. In terms of age classification, we could show it to students in years 10 and 11, but I do believe that our second consideration, about distressing content affecting students, makes it a drama that students are better opting into at home if they and their parents would like to. Sadly, we know that a growing number of students have witnessed domestic violence and been exposed to misogynistic abuse. It's therefore important that we include this issue in our curriculum but that we do so sensitively. We know this because of the police reports we receive on all domestic incidents they are called to deal with and because of what students disclose to members of the safeguarding team.

Unlike most schools, we include RPS lessons in our key stage 4 curriculum, taught by subject specialists. They are best placed to manage the teaching of these topics and to create a safe classroom environment where issues can be explored by students sensitively. They are well placed to answer students' questions in an age related way and to detect students feeling uncomfortable. We do also include sensitive topics in our assembly programme and, indeed, I did an assembly on sexism and misogyny last half term.

In the next two weeks, our assembly programme includes House assemblies where students undertake games and activities in competition with the other houses. There will be assemblies on autism appreciation in which students learn about autism and the qualities and achievements of autistic people; Years 7-8 will have an assembly on racial equality which will include the historical meaning and context to words and phrases which they might have encountered which makes their use wholly inappropriate.

With best wishes
Mr Rule

COLLEGE CULTURE

HOUSE POINTS AS OF 24/04/25



COMMUNITY NEWS

WYVERN COMMUNITY CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing?

Then why not come along and join our Community Choir, new term starts on Wednesday 30th April register your interest with us for a free taster session - email community@wyvern.hants.sch.uk or call 023 80 692678 10 weeks @£46.50. [Click here for more details.](#)



Spotlight UK
Creating positive memories

£6.50 per person

Laser Tag & Bowling




Tuesday 29th April 6pm
1 game of bowling followed by laser tag
Please arrive with time to book in

Auckland Rd, Southampton SO15 0SD

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE BOOKING FOR SPOTLIGHT UK
Bookings must be confirmed in advance please email
activities@spotlightuk.org
www.spotlightuk.org Reg Charity 1129258

NEWS ROUND UP

Thank you to Twynams Charities.

We are very grateful to a local charitable trust that we have received donations from to help support the work of our pastoral and family support team. As you can see from the information below, Twynams charity is a long established organisation specifically to help people in our immediate area. We have used some of these funds in the past to help support families and students with specific requests at a time of financial hardship. Thank you Twynams for your continued support.

Twynams Charities was originally set up with a bequest in the 1600s with the aim of 'Relieving persons in need of assistance who are resident in the parishes of Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath.' The Charities own, manage and rent out five properties in Fair Oak Square. Once the cost of property maintenance and insurance has been paid out of the rental income the Trustees make funds via third parties such as local housing charities and schools.

Whilst the Trustees do not make grants directly to individuals in financial need they are keen to identify any other local third parties whom they can offer financial support to. If you have a link to an organisation in Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath and wish to submit an application for funding please email twynamscharities@gmail.com.

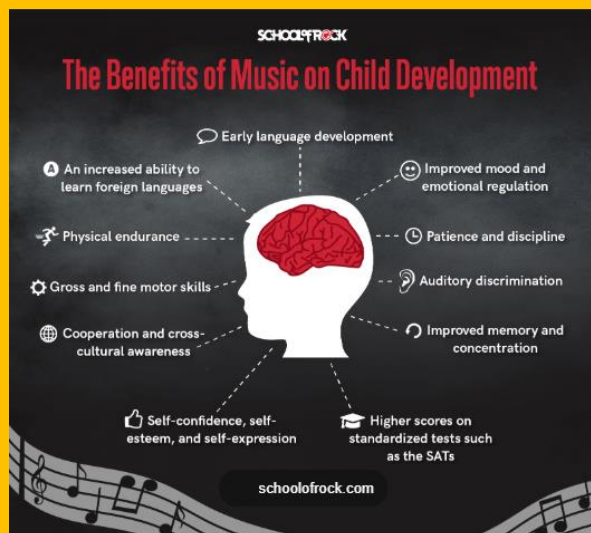
GENERAL NOTICES

Free Instrumental Taster Sessions

The Wyvern Music department will be offering the opportunity for students to sign up for a free instrumental taster lesson this term. We also have some instruments which can be loaned to students if they decide to sign up for instrumental lessons following their taster lesson. Instrumental lessons are run by our excellent team of

specialist peripatetic instrumental teachers and give the students so many wider skills, increasing discipline, listening skills, improving memory, sensory development, patience and perseverance, as well as building self-esteem and confidence, as well as creating opportunities to be involved in music-making with other students.

Wyvern are currently offering a taster lesson on: violin, cello, double bass, oboe, clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet or trombone. If you are interested in a taster lesson for your child, please email me stating the student's name, tutor group and instrument preference: s.wood@wyvern.hants.sch.uk.



CAMHS Parents and Carers Events

[Click here to find out more about the opportunity for parents/carers, professionals or young people to come and chat to our CAMHS clinicians, ask questions, get advice and resources.](#) Bookable slots available via our website or just drop in.

There are some upcoming free events about mental health that families might find beneficial. [Please click here for more details](#) and here for their [Embracing Autism seminars](#).

CAREERS NEWS

Apprenticeship Opportunities

For this week there are over 50 apprenticeships around in the area. Please have a look at the <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/> for all the apprenticeships.

SETA Apprenticeship News

[Click here to access the SETA Engineering Apprenticeship Vacancy Bulletin](#)

Engineering Vacancies

Remember to advise anyone interested in a career in engineering to keep an eye on the SETA [apprenticeship vacancies](#) page on our website, and signpost interested young people there too. Don't forget to have a look at the [Govt Apprenticeship Website](#) as nearly 95% of all apprenticeship adverts (whatever the sector) will appear there.

As several vacancies have closed just recently, there are currently **17 LIVE VACANCIES on SETAs website**. Two are due to close in a couple of days, with only a few more being adding over the coming weeks. As always, please pass this bulletin on, or feel free to add it into any newsletters etc that go out to families.

UNIFROG SESSIONS

Law taster: exploring the legal system's relationship with LGBTQ+ communities

Virtual

This webinar will blend law, social science, and politics to explore how the legal system has regulated society's relationship with LGBTQ+ people. Join Dr Anne-Marie Greenslade from Leeds Beckett University to discover how societal views and laws evolve together, and consider what happens when society changes and the legal system doesn't.

Thursday 1 May @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)



Did you know you can qualify in two fields of nursing with just one degree?

Virtual

Liverpool John Moores University is excited to announce its new integrated masters degrees in nursing. On one of the four-year degrees, you could study Adult and Children's Nursing, Adult and Mental Health Nursing, or Mental Health and Children's Nursing (validation pending). Join programme leader and registered children's nurse Erica Hincks, along with our admissions team, to learn more about the benefits of studying two types of nursing, entry requirements, and placements you could take up.

Thursday 1 May @ 17:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)



YEAR 7 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 8 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 9 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 10 NOTICES

No notices this week.

YEAR 11 NOTICES

Exams and Continuing to Attending Revision Sessions

GCSE exams are now upon us and many students are completing their German / Spanish Speaking Exam and Art and Photography is also coming up next week.

Our first written exam is on Thursday 8th May and exams come thick and fast from this day.

Students have now been provided with their timetable which is showing on EduLink and I will deliver an 'Exam Assembly' next Friday 2nd May to share some key messages.

One message will be around when lessons finish and when students move to what we call an exam timetable.

For now, students will remain in college full time and when not in an exam will attend their normal timetable. If their subject has finished e.g. ART they will be allowed to undertake revision for other subjects whilst supervised by their teacher.

As subjects begin to finish towards half term students move across to an exam timetable whereby, they no longer need to attend tutor time, Core PE, RPS and any subject in which all exams have finished.

We do recommend that students attend lessons in the subjects which have not had their final exam until the very end. There are many advantages to this, for example staff tailor their revision for Paper 2 or 3 based on the content in Paper 1.

We do provide a supervised study room for all students who would prefer to be on site full time.

We would always advise that a student remains in all lessons until they have completed the terminal exam in individual subjects for the following reasons:

1. Students receive carefully planned, and well sequenced, exam revision sessions.
2. Revision of content which is focussed for exams this year is undertaken across the curriculum based on the exam specification.
3. Guidance on exam technique and exam strategy such as time management is covered.
4. Teachers can respond to questions and issues raised by individual students.
5. Students can 'offload' some of their worries and anxieties to their teachers or pastoral support colleagues.
6. Students can spend some down time relaxing with their friends and peers.
7. We can pass on important information via tutor time.
8. To maintain a good attendance percentage.