



Thursday 1st May 2025

Issue NUMBER 29 2024-2025

## DIARY DATES

Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	10.00-11.30am	Year 11 Revision Series – Citizenship
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May		Bank Holiday
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 9 Parliament & Supreme Court visit
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am-12.30 pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Maths
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	4.00-6.00 pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	3.15-5.10 pm	Year 11 Revision Series – History
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	4.00-6.00 pm	Year 11 Revision Series – PE
26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 11 Summer Half Term Holiday
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00-11.30 am	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	3.15-4.15 pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Geography
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	4.00-5.30 pm	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	9.00-10.30 am	Year 11 Revision Series – Science
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	3.15-4.10 pm	Year 11 Revision Series - History
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00-10.30 am	Year 11 Revision Series - Science
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	3.15-4.15 pm	Year 11 Revision Series - Geography
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	5.30-6.30 pm	Battlefield Information Meeting for Parents
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 10 Geography Trip - Swanage
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June		Black Country Trip
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 10 Geography Trip - Swanage
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00-10.30 am	Year 11 Revision Series - Science

Dear parents and Carers,

Thank you to those of you who joined us for the Year 7 Consultation Evening on Tuesday. Staff reported to me how much they enjoyed meeting you and discussing your children's learning and wellbeing; they appreciated the abundance of positive comments you made about them and the college. Thank you for being so supportive.

Thank you also to those of you with children in Year 11 for encouraging them to attend the additional revision sessions we have been running at weekends and in the evenings.

It has been a pleasure to spend time with the Year 10 applicants for the posts of Head Prefect and I am delighted to report that Elle Smicle-Thompson and Olivia Dancer will be undertaking these roles. I was particularly interested to hear so many of the applicants mention the need for the college to create more opportunities for older students to support younger students in different roles. This is something that I hope the new senior prefect team will be able to help us improve. We do currently have Literacy Ambassadors who help students in Year 7 develop their reading abilities, numeracy ambassadors who help them develop numeracy skills and vocal ambassadors who help students with their musical ability. We will look to see how we can build on these successes and create more chances for older students to be role models and for younger students to benefit from them.

It is also worth saying that many of our prefects help run clubs and activities. The new summer term extra-curricular programme has been published on the website, including the new summer sports clubs and practices. You can find these here. [Extra Curricular - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#) The "grow" part of our motto "think, grow, care" is partly about students expanding their interests and friendship groups to develop confidence, positive self-worth and social skills. Please do encourage your child to take part in an activity, especially something new which they might really take to and find an interest in or talent for.

### **Safeguarding Issue: Chroming**

Chroming is also referred to as inhalant abuse and it involves inhaling various chemicals like aerosols, nitrous oxide, solvents, and nitrites, leading to potentially fatal consequences. While inhalant abuse is not a new issue,

the way this trend is spreading through social media is particularly alarming, prompting urgent action to protect vulnerable individuals.

It is currently trending on TikTok and we are aware of some Wyvern students who have tried it as a result of TikTok. Chroming poses significant risks to physical and mental health. Engaging in this activity can take various forms, including spraying aerosols directly into the mouth or nose, bagging them for inhalation, sniffing fumes from containers, or huffing by soaking a rag with the inhalant. These methods, often undertaken in enclosed spaces or with makeshift tools, significantly increase the risk of overdose and serious harm. Children and young people may be drawn to chroming for various reasons. The unpredictable effects of inhalants, including feelings of intoxication and hallucinations, can be appealing to thrill-seekers. Moreover, media depictions and peer pressure can further influence their decision to participate in this dangerous activity, leading to potential addiction and long-term health consequences.

The risks associated with chroming are multifaceted and severe. Physically, inhaling chemicals can cause respiratory and neurological damage, leading to fainting, confusion, and even death. Mentally and emotionally, chroming can exacerbate mental health issues and induce aggressive or erratic behaviour. Additionally, the legal consequences of inhalant abuse, coupled with the normalisation of risky behaviours online, can have long-term repercussions on a young person's future opportunities and well-being.

With best wishes  
Mr Rule

## **COLLEGE CULTURE**

### **Uniform Updates**

We would like to start by thanking all students and parents for your support with our renewed focus on uniform standards since returning from the Easter break. Our new digital recording system for uniform infringements—Proud of Wyvern (POW)—is now fully operational, and we've already seen a noticeable improvement in how students are presenting themselves across the college site. We are genuinely proud of the high majority of Wyvern students who are wearing their uniform with pride every day. In addition to improved uniform standards, we've also seen a significant uplift in behaviour across the college, with fewer high-level sanctions being issued—demonstrating that maintaining a professional appearance through good uniform helps create a culture of positive behaviour and stronger focus on teaching and learning.

We do, however, need to share a few important updates based on what staff have observed over the past week.

### **Hot Weather Adjustments**

Due to the unseasonably warm weather, students have been informed that they may choose not to wear their blazer or jumper today and tomorrow (Thursday–Friday). However, they must continue to wear their tie and keep shirts tucked in, maintaining a professional appearance.

In the event of hotter days later this term, we will consider allowing students to attend in their full PE kit and will communicate this with parents in advance.

When uniform exceptions are made for hot weather, we sometimes find that getting everyone back into full uniform can be challenging. Your support with helping students reset back to full uniform expectations next Tuesday—including blazers and/or jumpers—is much appreciated. A quick uniform check at home on Tuesday morning would go a long way in helping us re-establish consistency—thank you for your support. Forecasts suggest temperatures will be lower again next week.

### **Skirt Length**

In just the first six days since Easter, staff have had to remind students 668 times to wear skirts at the appropriate length. This is not sustainable.

We would greatly value parental support in reinforcing the importance of wearing skirts to knee length, in line with our uniform policy. This isn't about being overly strict—it's a safeguarding issue. Students walking up

staircases in rolled up, short skirts may be at risk of losing their dignity, and those behind them may be placed in an uncomfortable position.

We've now updated our uniform policy to clarify this:

"Staff will also ensure that skirts are worn at the correct knee-length. Skirts worn above knee height pose a safeguarding risk—for example, a student may lose their dignity when walking on staircases, and the person behind should not be placed in a position whereby they may witness this. We take skirt length very seriously. Although any student may choose to wear a skirt, repeated breaches of the knee-length requirement may result in the withdrawal of this option, and the student may be required to wear trousers-only to college. This is not prejudicial, as any student, regardless of their gender, can wear a skirt—or lose the privilege to do so."

### Earrings

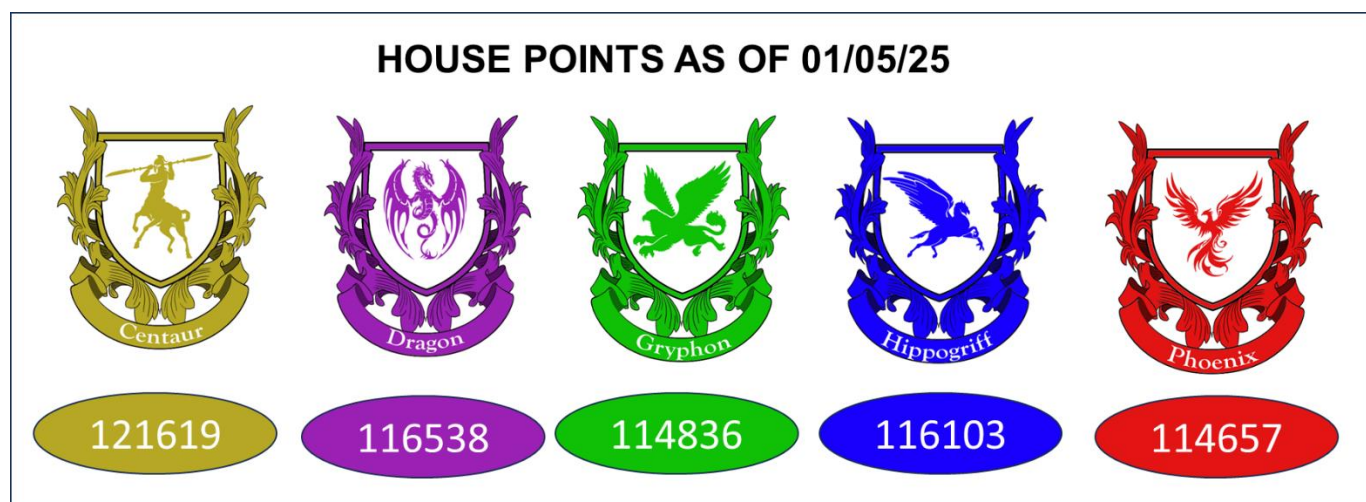
Finally, we're making a clarification to our earring policy. For some time, the policy has stated that students may wear a single plain stud in the lower lobe. However, we've seen a recent increase in earrings with gems and larger decorative studs.

To make our expectations clearer, the policy now reads:

"Students may wear one plain, small, metal stud in each lower ear lobe. Studs must be silver or gold in colour, smooth, and free from stones, gems, colours, patterns, or decorative designs of any kind."

Thank you again for your continued support in helping us maintain the high standards we expect at Wyvern. We wish you and your families a wonderful bank holiday weekend.

**William Emeny**  
Deputy Headteacher



## 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](mailto:community@wyvern.hants.sch.uk) or call 023 80 692678 10 weeks @£46.50. [Click here for more details.](#)


### HAMPSHIRE YOUTH DANCE COMPANY


HYDC are recognised Nationally as the South West's leading youth dance company, providing pre- vocational training and performance experience, alongside the opportunity to work with renowned choreographers and industry experts. We are searching for young dancers who are committed, driven and passionate about taking their dance training to the next level.


Find out more about HYDC and submit an application here;  
<https://thepointeastleigh.co.uk/get-involved/hampshire-youth-dance-company>



**NEW!**  
**CEREBRAL PALSY**  
**FOOTBALL TRAINING**  
**At Wyvern Football Club**



 **Wyvern College**  
Botley Road, Fair Oak, Eastleigh SO50 7AN.  
Sessions will be on the all weather pitch

 **For children aged 5-12 years with Cerebral Palsy**

 **Fridays 5-6pm**  
Term time  
£3 per session

**Free taster Sessions Available**

To register your interest contact -  
Jobrown@wyvernfc.org.uk  
07917532203

### LEARN BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE

We've got spaces available on our British Sign Language Parent and Child Workshop due to run in May half term at Eastleigh College.

You can find out more about the workshop and parents can apply here: [British Sign Language \(BSL\) - Parent and Child Workshop \(Community Course\) - SHCG | South Hampshire College Group](#)



## NEW ROUND UP

### Celebrating Our Year 10 and 11 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Achievers!

We are thrilled to announce that a group of dedicated Year 10 and 11 students have successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) Award. This prestigious achievement is a testament to their hard work, perseverance, and commitment to personal development.

Last summer term, these students embarked on their adventurous expedition, demonstrating teamwork, resilience, and a spirit of adventure. They navigated through challenging terrains, camped under the stars, and honed their outdoor skills. This experience not only tested their physical endurance but also fostered a sense of camaraderie and independence.

Following their expedition, each student diligently worked on completing the individual sections of the award: Skills, Physical, and Volunteering. Their efforts in these areas have been truly commendable:

- **Skills:** Students developed new talents and honed existing ones, ranging from musical instruments to cooking and creative arts.
- **Physical:** They engaged in various physical activities, improving their fitness and overall well-being. From team sports to individual pursuits, their dedication to staying active has been inspiring.
- **Volunteering:** Our students have made significant contributions to their communities, volunteering their time and energy to support local causes and initiatives. Their commitment to helping others has made a positive impact and exemplifies the values of the D of E Award.

We are incredibly proud of Millie, Sam, Lily, Evie, Florence, Isobel, Eva, Lola, Hayden and Grace.

Congratulations to each of these remarkable individuals! Their journey through the Bronze D of E Award has equipped them with valuable life skills and unforgettable memories. We look forward to seeing them continue to grow and succeed in their future endeavours.

Thank you to all the parents, teachers, and mentors who have supported these students throughout their D of E journey. Your encouragement and guidance have been instrumental in their success.



## COLLECTING MEMORIES OF 1945

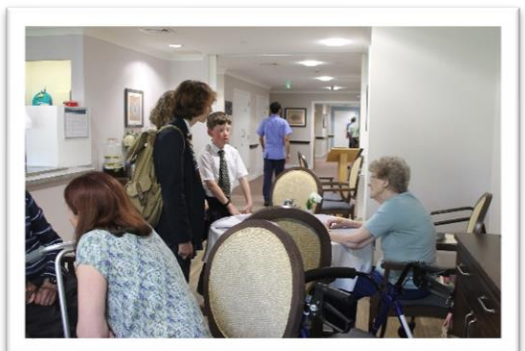


The History Club have had two fantastic visits at the beginning of this term. On Tuesday 22nd April they visited Wintershill Hall to meet the owner Colonel Balfour who told them the moving story of "the Southampton Boys" - 150 boys (and girls!) who were brought to the hall having survived the horrors of various concentration camps during World War 2. Their relatives still come back to the hall to remember its role in helping their family members recover and go on to establish new lives.

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> the club visited residents at

Sunnybanks Care Home to talk to them about their memories of World War 2. This was a fantastic opportunity to collect the oral histories of people who were there in a wide variety of situations around the UK at the time. It was a lovely visit enjoyed by the club members and residents.

The History Club are collecting stories of the war in preparation for a parish VE celebration.



## Fundraising Penalites

Last Wednesday Teddy in Year 8 took part in a charity penalty shoot out at St Marys with legends Matt Le Tissier and Joe Tessem. Teddy and 4 of his teammates at AFC Lakeside raised a record breaking £395.00 for Youth Options.

It was filmed for Early Doors where you can see Teddy and his teammate interviewed by Matt. [https://youtu.be/nK\\_UDFqDI0k?si=sJOKEiya4baBjdNA](https://youtu.be/nK_UDFqDI0k?si=sJOKEiya4baBjdNA)  
Well done to all of them for such a great effort.



## GENERAL NOTICES

**PRODUCTION PHOTO ORDERS** – If you ordered photos from the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – they are now available for collection by the students from the Finance Office.

## LOST PROPERTY

Please be aware we have a number of unnamed coats, PE kits, shoes as well as other miscellaneous items. The collection of lost property will be set out in Reception daily from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 from 3-4pm. Parents and students will be able to check for any items that they are missing. All items not claimed after the 9<sup>th</sup> will be disposed of.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS AND ACTIVITES

Please go to [Extra Curricular - Wyvern College](#) to see the updated list of what clubs and activities are available to our students this term.

**INSIGHT INTO AUTISM – Free Parent Workshop Thursday 5th June 2025 10.00am – 2.00pm Shepherds Down School, Compton** This workshop will provide you with an insight into autism and how it affects your child. Our aim is to provide you with a range of practical strategies to support your child in the home environment. [Click here for more details and how to book.](#)

## ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

[Click here for the latest edition of our Online Safety Newsletter.](#)

## 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](#).

## 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](mailto:s.wood@wyvern.hants.sch.uk).

## CAREERS NEWS

### RICHARD TAUNTON SITH FORM COLLEGE OPEN EVENING

[Please click here for details of upcoming opportunities to visit the college.](#)

### SETA Apprenticeship News

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

There are currently 15 [LIVE VACANCIES](#) on SETAs website.

#### 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.

## UNIFROG SESSIONS

### Ancient history taster: why study the ancient world in the modern day?

#### Virtual

The ancient world doesn't belong to a distant past. It continues to leave a lasting mark, in languages, world religions, politics, and popular culture. Our understanding of the ancient past is also impacted by new research and contemporary ideas. In this interactive session, join lecturers and students from the University of Southampton to explore the place of ancient history in the 21st century.

Tuesday 6 May @ 17:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#) or [Share](#)



### Managing your wellbeing during exams and tests

#### Virtual

Exams and tests are important for opening doors to your next steps, but you need to manage your wellbeing to get the best results. In this webinar, hear from the University of Lincoln and one of Unifrog's mental health champions about their top tips for managing exam and test stress, help you to find your best revision style, and signpost you to some useful resources for accessing support. Sign up now to learn how to manage your wellbeing during exams and tests!

Wednesday 7 May @ 16:30 UK time - 45 mins - [sign up](#)

## YEAR 7 NOTICES

### YEAR 7 Visit to the Black Country Museum

The History Department is planning a visit to the Black Country Museum near Dudley to help our students develop their understanding of life in Britain during the Industrial Revolution. Year 7 are studying this as part of the Key Stage 3 History curriculum.

Date: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Venue: Black Country Museum

Meeting time and place: 6.45am for a prompt 7am departure

Transport: Coach

Return time and place: 7pm. Traffic dependant. Front of school

If you would like your son/daughter to take part in this trip please complete the consent form found on ParentMail by 9am on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

[Please click here for a letter with more details.](#)

Our final term.....

Can you believe that it is already May and we have started our final term of Year 7 - time has flown by!

May is charity month for Year 7 with every pupil being tasked with the job of raising at least £7 for the Blue Cross. I have heard of lots of grand ideas about bake sales, car washes, sponsored runs and guess the sweets in the jar. Please do encourage your child to get involved in this and see if you can spare a few pennies towards their target fundraising amount.

Thank you for supporting our uniform drive - Year 7 are looking very neat and tidy. However, we still need to work on not rolling up the skirts, not chewing gum and not wearing smart watches. Please can you have these conversations at home so that pupils are receiving a consistent message. Really well done to 7H1 for receiving the lowest amount of POW ticks since our automated relaunch.

Really well done to the following pupils for flying the achievement points flag and earning the top number of points this term so far....Fin (7P1), Jenny (7D2), Paige (7H2) and to 7D2 for being the shining beacon for the other tutor groups to follow with an amazing 802 points (and counting) achieved.

I look forward to hearing about the fundraising endeavours (please take and share any photos with the Year Office) and will update you all with total at the end of the month.

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend - fingers crossed for the weather to continue!

Year 7 Team

## **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**

Our first written exam is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.