



Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024

Issue 19

## Next Week's Diary Dates

Date	Time	Event
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb		Yr11 Revision for Trials
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> - Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> February		Shrek – College production, including Saturday matinee
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> February		DofE New Forest walk – groups A & B
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	2.55pm	College closes at normal time for half term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	8.25am	College reopens after half term
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb		Year 11 Trial Exams English, Math & Science
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	9am	Booking system for Yr8 Parents evening goes live
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February		Onsite Yr8 Parents Options info evening
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February		Yr7 Globe Theatre
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> March		Scholastic Book Fair – see below for info
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	4-7pm	Year 8 Virtual Parents evening
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March		Cluster Vocal festival at Thornden Hall

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Update from the week

The college has an air of excitement and anticipation about it as over 120 students prepare for the performances of this year's production: Shrek the Musical. Students have been working very hard to make this a success and they performed for an audience of infant and junior school students yesterday. Tonight is their first performance for members of the public, with others scheduled for tomorrow, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening.

Also, this week we have year 8 students running a pop-up café for staff and lower school students entering the district competition for Cross Country.

### Vapes

You might also have seen in the news the government's announcement that disposable vapes are to be banned as part of government plans to tackle the rise in youth vaping and protect children's health. The measures also aim to restrict flavours which are specifically marketed at children and ensure that manufacturers produce plainer, less visually appealing packaging.

The powers will also allow the government to change how vapes are displayed in shops, moving them out of sight of children and away from products that appeal to them, like sweets. There will also be new fines for shops in England and Wales which sell vapes illegally to children.

Trading standards officers will be empowered to act 'on the spot' to tackle underage tobacco and vape sales. This builds on a maximum £2,500 fine that local authorities can already impose. Vaping alternatives - such as nicotine pouches - will also be banned for children.

These measures come in response to several pieces of research which show an increase in children trying vapes; figures from the School Health Research Network showed that 20% of secondary school students have tried vaping. We continue to educate students about the dangers of vaping, recognising that this is just as important as national restrictions on vapes.

We have introduced staff supervision of the toilets at break times and lesson changeovers to ensure that at the busiest times, the toilets remain vape free. These measures, together with our crackdown on students sharing toilet cubicles has resulted in a significant decrease in vape use in toilets.

We do allow students to use toilets during lesson time and sometimes students take advantages of this to vape then. Now that we have floor-to-ceiling cubicle doors and walls, we will be able to use vape alarms to

pinpoint in which cubicles vaping is taking place. We will then be able to use our CCTV cameras from the toilet washroom area, to see which student last entered cubicle where the alarm has gone off.

We also do want to support young people to give up vaping addictions and if your child would like help to do so, then please do let us know. This article in the Guardian offers good advice on how parents can talk to their children about vaping. [How to talk to your kids about vaping | The Independent](#)

With best wishes  
Mr Rule

### College Vacancies

- **Choir Leader** – we are looking for someone to lead our wonderful Community Choir. [Please click here for more and to check our website for other vacancies.](#)

### Community Notices

- **ICON Football Sessions - Age 2-U14's Boys and Girls** - Professional Football Coaching Sessions run by ICON Sports Coaching - are regularly held at Wyvern throughout the week - various sessions from Age 2 - U14 are available. [Click here for more information.](#) Free Taster Session Available To book contact [www.iconsportscoaching.co.uk](http://www.iconsportscoaching.co.uk) / Call Steve on 07415 888851

### Poetry Live!

Last week, 68 Year 11 students took a trip to Oxford for the AQA annual English Poetry Live conference. An opportunity for pupils to engage with poets first hand and pick up some tips from the English chief examiner on how to write a great poetry comparison essay.

Students were brilliantly engaged throughout. Listening to Carol Anne Duffy explain the background to 'War Photographer' and Simon Armitage giving a moving reading of 'Remains'. With Owen Sheers, Daljit Nagra and Imtiaz Dharker also present. It made for a comprehensive day of modern poetry reading.

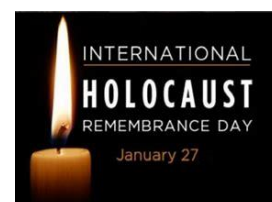
However, by far the 'star' of the day was John Agard. You could hear a pin drop as he read 'Potato' and discussed the importance of its links with immigration. But with his Caribbean drawl his reading of 'Checking Out Me History' closed the day with a bang.

There was much buzz on the coach home about the pupils newly gained depth of understanding, as much as the stunning architecture of Oxford. A trip almost certainly planned again for 2025!



### General College Notices

- **Water Bottles** – can parent/carers remind our students that they need to bring in water bottles every day. Thank you.
- **Lost property** – We have a large selection of unnamed items that are currently in our lost property. If your child has lost an item during this last term, please ask them to check the lost property which can be accessed by a member of the Finance Office staff. Any items that we still have by the end of next week, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February, will be disposed of.
- **Hampshire Libraries** are always running courses for parents – check out what is coming up by going to [Learning in Libraries – Tagged "Family learning" – Hampshire County Council Shop \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)
- **Holocaust Memorial Day** – [click here](#) to find out how some of our RPS students chose to remember those effected by genocide.
- **Craft Club** – we have a new after-school craft club at Wyvern and the members are really enjoying their creative time. [Click here to see their comments and for more pictures](#)





## Scholastic Book Fair

Every year around World Book Day, Wyvern library arranges a book fair for year 7 and 8. This year it will be from Wednesday 28th February to Monday 4th March. The students are invited during one of their English classes to the books at the fair. The students spend about 25 mins browsing the books to see if they would like to buy one or choose one for Wyvern library.

For every book sold Wyvern library will receive money off of the books that they buy, up to 50%. We have benefited from free books worth over £800 at past book fairs. So, it is a great way of gaining resources for the library. It is also a great way to create a bit of excitement about books. [Click here for more details.](#)

## Careers Updates

- **Careers Weeks.** We have our Careers Week happening from the 4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> March and we would like to inspire our students to find out what careers are available to them. If you would like to come in and talk to our students about your work, then I look forward to hearing from you at [J.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk](mailto:J.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk)

Mrs Gough  
Careers Leader

- **Southampton Jobs Bulletin Please click here for the latest edition:** [Southampton-Jobs-Bulletin-25-January-2024.pdf \(wyverncollege.org.uk\)](#)
- This is a reminder that the **NHS Allied Healthcare Work Experience** begins this Sunday 4th February. The NHS strongly encourage students in years 10/S3/NI11 - 13/S6/NI14 considering healthcare - to register ahead of this weekend. A strong record of work experience is crucial to all allied health careers, so we would be very grateful if you could forward this to your students. [For more details click here.](#)
- **Basketball @ Barton Peveril** Students joining the College in 2024 & 2025 can learn more about the outstanding Basketball programme at Barton Peveril Sixth Form College. Hear from coaches on the programme before asking your questions and touring the state-of-the-art facilities at Barton Peveril. Both students and parents/guardians are invited to attend this event. Below is a link with details and to confirm attendance. However, this is not imperative to turning up. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/802661099957?aff=oddtcreator>

## Year 7 Notices

Further to my newsletter article last week about gossip, I delivered an assembly on Monday where this specific theme was explored. I also delivered our termly reminders about bullying / conflict / meanness, safeguarding and cycle safety in the dark. I am really looking forward to taking some Y7s (related to PRIDE scores) bowling & for a basket meal on Monday afternoon – they don't have to wear uniform all

day remember – as this will be a great opportunity to spend some time with a smaller number of students who work well in lessons. Have a great weekend!

Yr7 Pastoral Team

### **Year 7 France and Germany Trips – Launch last week**

- We are excited to be launching our three day trips to France and Germany, [Please click here for the France trip letter](#) and [click here for the Germany letter](#) for information regarding applying and paying the deposit attached.

**REMINDER – Year 7 Group School Photo – Yellow** - Closing date is TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2024\*\*\*  
Should you wish to view/order more than one child's photo, please click CHANGE PROOFCARD or ADD PROOFCARD button to return to login page to allow new details to be entered.

To view your photo either:

1. Visit [www.smileYellow.com](http://www.smileYellow.com) and enter the following codes

Proofcard ID 3920522

Web Password WYCY-W54F-WB6D

OR

2. [click here](#)

<https://www.smileyellow.com/?username=3920522&password=WYCY-W54F-WB6D>

If you have any questions, please email [info@smileYellow.com](mailto:info@smileYellow.com). PLEASE DO NOT reply to this email as it is "do not reply" address.

Thank you.

### **Year 8 Notices**

- No Notices this week

Yr8 Pastoral Team

### **Year 9 Notices**

- Year 9 continue to work hard in their lessons and are enjoying their Option subjects. Many subjects will be doing assessments shortly and it is important that the students always have the correct equipment with them – they never know when they might need it.

There is a great buzz around college this week as the Shrek production starts this evening, we can't wait to see the students shine! The students have been working really hard on this and we are very proud of them. There are still a few tickets available so please do come and watch our talented students if you are able.

Please can you support your child in wearing the correct uniform, tutors will be doing uniform checks over the next couple of weeks and will contact home with any concerns. If you require support with uniform, equipment or anything else please let us know. There are lots of false eyelashes being worn currently, we will be asking students to remove these as false eyelashes aren't part of the uniform policy.

Thank you

Yr9 Pastoral Team

### **Year 10 Notices**

- No notices this week

Yr10 Pastoral Team

### **Year 11 Notices**

- **Extra Support & Revision – Pre-Trials 2-** leading up to half term, we will be offering Yr11 students a chance to attend extra support & revision sessions for some of their subjects. The majority of these will be run after College, 2.55pm – 3.55pm - P6 session, some will be before college starts in the mornings.

These sessions are voluntary, but we have found in the past that these have helped students with preparing for their exams. [Please click here to access the P6 timetable for next week](#)

Yr11 Pastoral team

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Thank you.