



DIARY DATES

Date	Time	Event
Friday 13 th September		Year 7, 9 and Year 11 photos.
Thursday 19 th September	13.25	Early closure for Open Evening preparations
Thursday 19 th September	18.00	Open Evening. Student helpers to arrive by 17.30
Friday 20 th September	All day	INSET day – college closed to all students
Tuesday 24 th September	18.30	Year 7 Pastoral Information Evening
Monday 30 th September	17.00	Careers Fair in Sports Hall
Thursday 3 rd October	18.30	Year 9 Information Evening

Welcome All New Readers to the Week@Wyvern

This newsletter should be in your email inbox every Thursday and is available via Edulink and on our website.

Many of our year specific and whole school letters are distributed via this newsletter and we also include a key message from our leadership team, a roundup of college news and information for all parents or those with children in specific year groups.

We also include links to many of our community activities and for educational, support and community events.

We hope you find the layout clear – we do produce an accessible version that will be available through the same channels.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your family have had an enjoyable summer; it has been wonderful to welcome your children back to college this week and to hear all that they have been up to, including Year 11 talking about their work experience placements which happened in the last week of term. These have prepared them well for their final year at Wyvern, focusing them on the need to work hard for their GCSE exams.

I am delighted with the GCSE exam results from this summer. Once again, Wyvern students have achieved significantly better grades than the national average, across all the core subjects of English, Maths Science, Humanities (Geography, History) and Languages. Attainment is now well above the national average in all these subjects for top passes (9-7), strong passes (9-5) and good passes (9-4). Building on the excellent results from 2023, we have seen an increase in the proportion of all grades across all subjects that were 7 or higher, 6 or higher, 5 or higher and 4 or higher. This is especially pleasing as nationally the proportion of grades at many of these levels decreased. We had students who attained grade 9 in all of their subjects. But we have also seen the effects of our more inclusive approaches to teaching: results for boys were just as good as for girls (there is not the gender gap that exists nationally); students with a special education need and those joining us with low attainment from junior school have achieved some of the best results in our college's history; the gap between those from disadvantaged backgrounds and other students has reduced and in terms of ethnicity, there is no difference in performance.

	Wyvern	National
The average grade for students across 8 qualifications	5	4
The proportion of students gaining good passes in 5 or more GCSEs including English and Maths	68%	61%
The proportion gaining good passes in English (grades 9-4)	82%	76%
The proportion gaining good passes in Maths (grades 9-4)	78%	71%
The proportion gaining good passes in TWO Science GCSEs (grades 9-4)	74%	65%
The proportion gaining good passes in Foreign Languages (grades 9-4)	83%	70%
The proportion gaining good passes in a Humanities subject (grades 9-4)	75%	62%
The proportion of grades that were top grades (9-7)	28%	21%

I would like to congratulate the class of 2024 for these achievements. I would like to thank all those parents who had children in Year 11 last year; we enjoyed working closely with you to support your children achieve these results. Two of the reasons why this year group did so well was because their attendance and the number of achievement points they earned were both higher than any year group that has come through Wyvern before. Hard work and strong attendance are more significant causes of success than anything else, including prior attainment. In the college we have a great quote from Carol Dweck, whose work on the Growth Mindset has changed the way people view academic success: *"it's not always the people who start out the smartest who end up the smartest; it's the people who work the hardest."*

Although we are pleased with these results, we are not complacent. We will continue to reflect on how we can improve further; on what we can learn from the highest performing schools in the country and how we can ensure greater consistency between subjects. We have lots to learn as professionals. On Monday's INSET day, teachers studied the information about the students in their new classes and how they can provide the right levels of support and challenge for them. We also launched our new praise, rewards, and achievement policy with staff which we hope will incentivise good behaviour.

We have also welcomed the new Year 7 students to our college this week. They have had an excellent first few days; we have seen them working hard and keen to impress staff. They have made a very positive first impression. We hope they will get involved in the many opportunities they will find at Wyvern and grow to become just as successful as our Year 11 leavers.

With best wishes
Mr Rule

COLLEGE VACANCIES

- Our website is updated regularly with current vacancies within Wyvern: [Click here to find out more.](#)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community Choir

Wyvern Community Choir – we are a friendly group who enjoy singing for fun, no experience necessary, feel free to come along for a Free Taster Session – starting Wednesday 11th September at 18.30.

[For more information click here.](#)

COLLEGE CULTURE NEWS

We are thrilled to welcome you and your child back to Wyvern for the 2024-2025 academic year! We hope your child is as excited as we are to begin another year of learning, growth, and community building. We have several exciting developments this year that are designed to enhance students' engagement and enjoyment of school. In this edition of our newsletter, I would like to share two of these exciting new initiatives with you.

Introducing Our Brand-New House System

We are delighted to announce the launch of our brand-new house system at Wyvern! Every student will now belong to one of five houses: Centaur, Gryphon, Dragon, Hippogriff, or Phoenix. Each house will include two tutor groups from each year, from Year 7 to Year 11, creating a dynamic mix of students across different year groups.



Here's how our house system will work:

- **House Assemblies:** Each half term, we will hold house assemblies to celebrate achievements and launch new house competitions. The first house assemblies will take place in Week 3.
- **House Competitions:** Students can earn points for their house by participating in various competitions. Every participant contributes to their house's total, fostering a sense of teamwork and friendly competition.
- **Staff Involvement:** All staff members, except Mr. Rule, are also part of a house and will participate in staff competitions throughout the year to contribute points towards their house.
- **The House Cup:** At the end of the year, on Sports Day during the summer term, the house with the most points will be awarded the coveted House Cup!

We believe this new house system will build camaraderie, encourage collaboration, and promote school spirit among our students and staff. We look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on our school community.

Our New Achievement Strategy

Alongside our new house system, we are also excited to introduce a revamped achievement strategy designed to motivate and reward students more consistently. Here's how it works:

- **House Points:** Students will earn house points based on their achievements:
 - **P1:** Awarded when a student meets our expectations, earning 1 house point.
 - **P2:** Awarded when a student exceeds our expectations, earning 10 house points.
 - **P3:** Awarded for exceptional achievements, earning 50 house points.
- **Parental Notifications:** You will receive a notification via Edulink each time your child earns house points, giving you the opportunity to celebrate their successes with them. Postcards and letters will be sent home for P2 and P3 achievements too.
- **-Milestone Rewards:** For every 50 house points earned, you and your child will receive an email. As students progress from 50 to 100, 150, and beyond, they will achieve various awards named after local

and UK landmarks. These milestones are designed to encourage a sense of achievement and motivate students to keep striving for excellence.

- **Celebration Events:** We will continue to host our popular **Celebration Breakfasts** and introduce a new event, **Breakfast with the Headteacher**, for students who achieve the highest average PRIDE scores. Additionally, we are excited to announce **Subject Awards Evenings** for Years 7 to 10, which will take place in the summer term to celebrate academic achievements across the curriculum. Parents will be invited to join us for these special evenings.
- **End-of-Year Praise Trips:** In Week 5, we will launch our brand-new end-of-year praise trips for students who meet specific criteria around behaviour, attendance, and punctuality. More details will be shared soon.

We hope these new initiatives will provide students with even more reasons to strive for excellence and feel valued for their efforts. We believe in celebrating the achievements of our students and recognising the hard work they put in every day.

We are incredibly excited about these new developments and are confident that they will contribute to a positive, vibrant school culture where every student feels motivated and supported. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to make this the best school year yet!

Best wishes,
Mr. Emeny
Deputy Headteacher Pastoral Care and College Culture

CAREERS NEWS

The Careers Department has set the ground running as we are currently preparing for the Careers Fair for Monday 30th September 2024. The event is for Year 11 students and Parents/ Guardians and starts at 5pm, for those who would prefer a quieter and less crowded setting. Then at 5.30pm the main session begins until 7pm. There will be a range of Colleges, Universities, and local companies for students to have a chance to meet and chat about their next steps after Year 11. I have also attached a copy of some of the local College open events, so that you and your child can start planning for college visits. It's never too early to see what colleges and courses are available, so if your child is in Year 10 then I would consider going along and taking a look around.

Please click [here](#) to find details of the Careers Fair and the Calendar for College Open Events.

Since being back, I have had many chats with the new Year 11's who have been telling me more about the wonderful experiences that they had for their work placement. I'm so pleased that they enjoyed their time and for some it has given them a clear direction of what they want to do next. Students will be receiving a work experience certificate to take home in the next few weeks.

I know it's still early, but we will be doing our Careers Week again on the 3rd -7th March 2025 for all years. Student will get a chance to meet with local employers to find out what they do as a career and to allow them to explore and ask questions about their job. So, if anyone would like to come in and talk to some of our students about your job or the company, then please do get in touch with me. My email address is: j.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk

Kind Regards
Mrs Gough, Careers' Officer

GENERAL COLLEGE NOTICES

Trips information for all Parent/Carers

- Student participation in educational visits and trips forms an integral part of a student's experience of the taught curriculum and opportunities to enhance cultural, sporting and educational activities during their time at Wyvern. [Please click here to find the College Visits and Trip Guidelines for Parents and Students 2024-25.](#)

Music News

- **Instrumental Lessons** are beginning in week 2. Timetables will be up on the music room noticeboard by the end of this week- please check your day/ time and ensure you bring your instrument with you on the correct day. It is not too late to sign up for instrumental/ singing lessons- please do so by completing the online form available on Parentmail. If you have any questions, please email Miss Wood: swood@wyvern.hants.sch.uk
- The **National Youth Orchestra** are recruiting. [Click here to find out more.](#)

Online Safety

- The latest issue of our Online Safety Letter can be found on our website. [Click here to access this edition](#) and for past issues, go to [Keeping Students Safe](#)

YEAR 7 NOTICES

Message from Mrs Taylor-Watson

Well.....what a week!

We would firstly like to officially welcome you and your family into the Wyvern College family. It has been wonderful to meet your children, to begin the process of getting to know them and to start them off on, what we hope will be, a fabulous educational journey. Year 7 have made an exceptional first impression and many staff have stopped both me and Mrs Munday in the corridors this week to tell us how much they have enjoyed their first encounters with our young learners. It has been lovely seeing them confidently navigate their way around the school site, witnessing them positively interact with their fellow peers and listening to them talk enthusiastically about their new experiences.

I also thought it pertinent to introduce you to the Year 7 team. I am Mrs Taylor-Watson, and I am the Pastoral Leader. I am new to the school myself but have been teaching for 23 years and have been working in the pastoral team at my previous school for the past 16 years. Mrs Munday is the Deputy Pastoral Leader; she has been working as part of the pastoral team for the past 9 years and is an absolute fountain of knowledge and experience! The team comprises of 10 tutors and very shortly you should receive an introductory email from your own child's tutor welcoming you and explaining their role in more detail to you.

A huge well done to Year 7 on the exemplary start to term - long may it continue!

Mrs Taylor-Watson and Mrs Munday

YEAR 8 NOTICES

It has been wonderful to welcome Year 8 back this week and hearing all about their various holidays and other adventures. It is amazing to see how much some of them have grown over the break! I hope you, unlike me, were not waiting in a queue outside Skoolkit in Eastleigh to buy a new blazer because the one that fitted at the end of July appears to be half its original size all of a sudden!

Seeing the Year 7 students in for their first day brought back a lot of memories from this time last year. I would like to welcome Mrs Silveira, Mrs Harper and Mr Price to the tutor team replacing previous tutors. You will soon, or may have already, received an introductory email from your child's tutor(s). Please save this for

future reference as the tutor is your first point of call for most general communication although you may also find this link from our website useful [Who-to-Contact](#)

Next week Year 8 tutor groups will be electing Tutor Representatives - please do talk to your child about what this role involves and whether they're interested in applying for it this year - tutors have a copy of the job description. I know that students will be continuing to adjust to new teachers, new classrooms and different combinations of classmates and I hope that this goes well, and any initial nervousness or apprehension is easing as each day passes. Year 8 tutors, Miss Chapman and I are looking forward to working with you again over the next year.

Mrs Howard
Year 8 Pastoral Leader

YEAR 9 NOTICES

Dear parents of Year 9

I hope your son / daughter has had a positive first week back at college and that they are beginning to settle back in after the summer holidays.

Options:

Over the next few weeks students will begin to get a feel for their option choices and in most cases they will no doubt be delighted with their selections.

I visited Year 9 assembly earlier this week to remind them that if they are not happy they need to chat to their teacher in the first instance and then come and see me if they wish to consider a change.

With the timetable in place the options available to change into will now be limited and the window for changing options closes on Friday 27th September after 4 weeks of lessons.

Science Pathways:

In Year 9 we also begin to move towards Science Pathways with the default being that all students will study Combined Science, which is equivalent to two GCSEs.

Students who have science class codes 9L1 / 9L2 / 9R1 on their timetable are on the Triple Science Pathway which can lead to students entering GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics at the end of Year 11. You will also see that they have 5 Science lessons per week on their timetable.

Over the next few years some students may step down to the combined course if they struggle with the additional content.

However, if your son / daughter wishes to be considered for Triple Science and they are **not** in one of these classes it is important you contact your current Science teacher as soon as possible. Any request for a student to be moved into the Triple Pathway will be considered based on prior attainment in science assessments, PRIDe scores and attendance.

YEAR 10 NOTICES

Welcome Back Year 10!

It has been wonderful seeing everyone looking fantastic and in high spirits with a clear focus as we begin our journey into Year 10. We are continuing to focus on high standards of uniform, behaviour, and attendance to ensure we have the best possible start to the year, we are now one of the senior year groups and it is important that we set a good example to the younger year groups.

Continuing our success stories from last year, 10G2 are currently leading the tutor house points leaderboard with 136 House points already collected since yesterday morning. Well done Mr Lewis and his tutees, 10P2 are a close second with 126.

Mr White & Mrs Emeny
Year 10 Pastoral Team

YEAR 11 NOTICES

I hope your son/daughter has enjoyed coming back to college for their final year at Wyvern! Today, in assembly, I gave them a flavour of what the year will look like in terms of Post 16 college applications and interviews, trial exams, revision programme after XMAS, right through to the Prom in June and of course Results Day in August.

From speaking to many students in the first few days this week it has been great to hear how so many recognise the importance of Year 11, and how they intend to work hard to achieve the very best results possible in August.

On Monday you will receive the latest updated data sheet showing Projected Final Grades (PFGs) which were collated following the Year 10 exams. To remind you this is the GCSE grade range teachers expect students to go on to achieve at the end of Year 11 if they continue to work at their current rate.

We have our first Parents Evening for Year 11 on October 8th and this is a good opportunity to discuss progress in Year 11, prior to the trial examinations which will take place in the first two weeks of December.

I will be working closely with Mr Merriman and Mrs Stedman throughout the year and look forward to meeting many of you at the various events we will be offering during Year 11.

Simon Stocks
Deputy Headteacher / Line Manager of Year 11
Yr11 Pastoral team