



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

2024-2025 Issue NUMBER 16

## DIARY DATES

Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	12.30-15.00	Year 7 & 8 Cross Country
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	All Day	Year 8 Fort Nelson Trip
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	All Day	Year 8 Geography Trip – Marwell
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	All Day	Year 8 Geography Trip – Marwell
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	All Day	Year 8 Geography Trip – Marwell
7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> February		School Production – The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe
14 <sup>th</sup> February	2.55pm	College closes for half term (normal day)

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy new year to you and your family, I do hope you were able to enjoy the Christmas break. It was lovely to welcome students back to college on Tuesday, albeit with many looking tired due to return of the early morning getup. Hopefully, they will quickly adjust back to term time sleep patterns.

## Teaching and Learning

Monday was INSET day for staff and the focus was on developing teachers' skills in making learning more active and collaborative, with students working together to share ideas, problem solve together and teach one another. We have some departments which really excel in this area, and they were able to share their expertise with colleagues. In the afternoon, teachers worked together to improve those parts of the curriculum which are less engaging, applying the approaches they had learned about in the morning.

We are focusing this year on improving two strands of teaching and learning: active learning (making students more active and less passive in class) and assessment for learning which means checking students understanding throughout lessons so that lessons do not move on before students are ready or long after they have ready. This week's INSET day focused on the first of these three priorities. Research shows that when students frequently engage in high quality group work and learn from one another, they can make an additional 5 months of progress in a subject within a year. Students remember only 10% of what they read and 20% of what they hear from 90% of what they say and do. We know that when they work in these ways with others, students develop their teamwork, communication, problem-solving and conflict resolution skills, and a lot more. Students who are often shy about sharing ideas in front of the whole class, are happier to share them and develop them in smaller groups. We are hoping to devote more time for teachers to develop their expertise in this and we hope that students will enjoy their learning more, as a result.

## Safeguarding: Online Influencers

An influencer is somebody on a social media platform such as YouTube and Instagram, who have a high number of followers. Influencers share their opinions/ideas and may be paid to advertise/promote products through their account.

Whilst there are some great influencers who serve as positive and motivational role models for teenagers, there are some who choose to attract attention by sharing content that is for misogynistic, racist, or extremely misleading. These opinions can be expressed or interpreted as fact, so it is important to talk to your child and encourage them to fact check and critically analyse what they see and hear online.

Last term we did see a slight increase in racist, homophobic, and misogynistic comments being made. We work very hard to promote diversity and equality which the vast majority of our students embrace. However, we do have cases where students have been drawn into content that has encouraged them to say racist, homophobic

and misogynistic comments with the intent to upset others. What students online see is influenced by algorithms, which predict what type of content they are most likely to interact with.

Whilst there are benefits of algorithms, it can mean that once they start looking at certain content, their social media feed can become more aligned with that opinion, creating an echo chamber and therefore they do not see a balanced picture. Find out more here: <https://www.childnet.com/blog/algorithms/>. If your child uses social media, talk to them about who they follow. If there is anybody that you are unsure of, then check their feed and discuss with your child if you find anything worrying. You can find out more here

Topic: <https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/social-media/>

I wish you and your family a happy 2025. With best wishes

Mr Rule

## COLLEGE CULTURE

### Welcome Back! Let's Make 2025 a Great Year Together

Happy New Year to all our Wyvern families! We hope you had a wonderful, restful holiday and are feeling ready for the year ahead. A new term is always a great opportunity to celebrate what we've achieved so far and look ahead with optimism to the exciting opportunities to come.

This week, we'll be sending out Autumn 2 absence reports for all students. These reports are an important part of helping us work together to support your child's attendance, which is so vital for their learning, friendships, and personal growth. If you have any concerns after reviewing the report, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our pastoral team or Attendance Officer—we're here to help.

### Attendance: Progress and Celebration

We're proud to share some fantastic news: in the week of 2nd December, we recorded our highest weekly attendance of the year so far. A huge thank you to all the students, families, and staff who made this happen—it's a real team effort.

At the start of last term, Wyvern's attendance was 1.5% below the national average, but thanks to everyone's hard work, we've now closed that gap to 0.3%. This progress is something to celebrate, and we know that with your continued support, this term we can go even further.

### Our Commitment to Supporting Families

We know that attendance can sometimes be a challenge. Whether it's due to illness, anxiety, or practical struggles, life happens—and we're here to support you. Reaching out early can make a big difference, and we're grateful to all the parents who've already worked with us to address issues as they arise.

To help students stay motivated, we celebrate good attendance regularly. Each week, students with 100% attendance and punctuality earn P1s. Those with no unauthorised absences (and who meet other previously published behaviour criteria) can look forward to our summer Paultons Park trip (for Years 7-10), and we'll soon be sending out praise postcards to students who achieved perfect attendance in the Autumn Term.

### Tips for Supporting Attendance at Home

Strong attendance starts with good habits. Here are some small steps that can make a big difference:

- **Routines:** Set consistent homework routines, bedtimes and morning schedules to make school days run smoothly.
- **Preparation:** Get clothes, bags, and lunches ready the night before to ease morning stress.
- **Healthy Habits:** Encourage a balanced diet, regular exercise, and limited screen time in the evenings to support physical and mental well-being.

- **Open Conversations:** Talk to your child about how they're feeling, and let us know if there's anything they're worried about.

### Looking Ahead

Nationally, attendance remains a challenge, with 21% of students classified as 'persistently absent.' At Wyvern, we're matching this national trend, but we're determined to improve. Together, we can help students overcome barriers to attending regularly, setting them up for success both now and in the future. We're excited for what's ahead this term and look forward to working closely with you. If you have any questions or need support, please contact your child's Pastoral Leader or our Attendance Officer, Mrs Clark, at [k.clark@wyvern.hants.sch.uk](mailto:k.clark@wyvern.hants.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Here's to a fantastic start to 2025!

Mr Emeny

### House Points Update – 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

				
68438	64569	64305	66825	67146

**VACANCIES:** We have a vacancies for a **Maths Teacher and an ELSA**. For more details and to see our other vacancies – please go to [Recruitment - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#)

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**LEARN KARATE** - Monday nights on the Wyvern Sports Hall. A family friendly club run by Wado Sports Karate Academy. [Click here for more details.](#)

### WYVERN SPORTS & FITNESS OFFERS

**New Year, New You** - Our new year offer runs until 15 Feb 2025. Save £9.99 on either offer if you **join in house on Sat 11th Jan between 9am-1pm**. Come along and have a look around, meet the staff and save. [Please click here for more details.](#)



### CITY OF SOUTHAMPTON ORCHESTRA ANNUAL FAMILY CONCERT.

There are two performances on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 11am and again at 2pm** taking place in Central Hall, Southampton. The programme is entitled Heroes and Villains and includes music from Frozen, Spiderman, Hook, Star Wars, and a narrated story called The Knight Who Took All Day. We will also be joined by regular guests, narrator Phil Cheesman and The New Forest School of Dance. Each performance will last an hour.

[Click here for the flyer for the concerts](#) – we hope families with children who might enjoy the experience of live music to stimulate their imaginations. They will be able to ask the conductor questions, talk to members of the orchestra and meet the orchestra's mascot, Bernie the Bear and, of course, bring along their own favourite soft toy to enjoy the music too!

### **Fair Oak Improvement Scheme**

Updates on the Fair Oak improvements scheme. Milestone Infrastructure Ltd on behalf of Hampshire County Council will be undertaking investigatory highway works on Mortimers Lane, Winchester Road and Eastleigh Road in Fair Oak.

Schedule:

- Dates: Monday 6 January 2025 for 10 nights excluding weekends.
- Hours: 8pm to 6am (the road will reopen each morning).

The following works will be undertaken:

- Road and path surface testing;
- Drainage jetting (cleansing);
- CCTV inspection of existing drainage systems.

To enable the works to be undertaken in a safe manner, there will be road closures in place, which will depend on the location of the investigation works and will include:

- Mortimers Lane from the junction with Winchester Road to its junction with Michaels Way.
- Winchester Road (B3354 between a point opposite the Acorn Social Club to a point south of the four-way lights junction on Botley Road.
- Eastleigh Road (B3037 from its junction with Fratton Way to St Thomas Crescent on Stubbington Way.

A Gateman will be on site at closure points to provide access to all residents and emergency services. Pedestrian access will remain. There will be clear signage in place for the diversion route and this can be found on the scheme web page:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportschemes/mortimers-lane-fair-oak-improvements>

## **GENERAL NOTICES**

### **Online Safety**

The latest edition of our [Online Safety Newsletter](#) can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Past editions can be found on [Keeping Students Safe - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#).

## **MAGAZINES WANTED**

The art department are looking for donations of magazines for collaging. This can be any type of magazine, Fashion, gardening, sports, vehicle etc. If you have any you can pass on, your child can leave them at reception or bring them to classroom A1.

Thank you.



## **CAREERS NEWS**

Dear All Parents

We have our Careers week happening from the 3rd March until the 7th March 2024 and we would really like it if you could come in and speak to our students.

Last Year we had a range of guest speakers who did workshops, presentations and generally informing students about their role, company and the world of work.

The event is for all years in the College and the sessions are held in the hall for an assembly (30mins), or classroom (40/50 mins) and in the dance studio (40/50 mins) .

So, if you would like to contribute to the week then please get in touch with me at [julie.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk](mailto:julie.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk)

Kind Regards

Mrs Gough  
Careers Leader

### COLLEGE TASTER DAYS

Please see the Year 10 Colleges Taster Days for next year. We can't take the students to all of the events, so if there are any other Colleges that you would like to attend, then please do contact your child's Head of Year in advance to let them know.

Please can I also make you aware that the Barton Peveril College Taster Day will be on our Inset Day in June. So, if you wish to go then please keep Friday the 27th of June 2025 free . We will still be running a minibus from Wyvern College and back for those who wish to travel with us, though seats are limited.

Date	Name of College
Monday 23rd June 2025	Peter Symonds College
Inset Day Friday 27th June 2025	Barton Peveril College
Thursday 3rd July 2025	Itchen College
Wednesday 9th July 2025	Eastleigh College

### T LEVEL PARENTS EVENING

**South Hampshire College Group** are offering T Level Parents Information Evenings. These events are designed for parents/carers, school staff and students in years 10 and 11 to learn about T Levels.

The events will be held at Southampton College, Eastleigh College, Fareham College and CEMAST. Each evening will begin with an introductory presentation from our Vice Principals, followed by a tour led by our Curriculum Directors and Lecturers. During the tour, attendees will receive detailed information about work experience, structure, highlights and possible progression routes for our T Level courses.

Whilst the Vice Principle presentations will be similar at each event, the tours and T Level subjects vary per college so if you are interested in more than one college, please be sure to sign up to more than one event.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions and speak to current T Level students, our Lecturers, Work Experience team and local Universities.

We would love to see you there, please use the links below to book your place or [click here for more.](#)

[Wednesday 5 February, 5.30pm – 6.30pm - CEMAST](#)

[Thursday 6 February, 5.30pm – 7pm – Fareham College](#)

[Wednesday 12 February, 5.30pm – 7pm - Eastleigh College](#)

[Thursday 13 February, 5.30pm – 7pm - Southampton College](#)



**WYVERN CAREERS WEEK**

**3RD - 7TH MARCH 2025**

We would love it if you could come and inspire our students' young minds by speaking about your job and company.

Assembly: 15 minutes  
Class session: 45 minutes

Please get in touch with Mrs Gough at [j.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk](mailto:j.gough@wyvern.hants.sch.uk) if you would like to find out more about the week's events.

## SETA Engineering Apprenticeship Jobs Fair.

[Click here for more information](#) about the event being held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

### RICHARD TAUNTON OPEN EVENING

- Our next open evening is on Wednesday 11th June 2025 from 6 to 8pm. Please encourage anyone to book via this booking page: <https://www.richardtaunton.ac.uk/open-events/> I attach an A3 and A4 poster and digital screen display. It would be great if you could kindly put them up around school. If you'd prefer I print and send, please let me know the correct address.
- Our year 10 taster day is on Monday 7th July 2025. Please let me know if you wish to bring groups of students. I will share a booking form in the coming weeks.
- Our year 11 applicant day is on Monday 30th June 2025. Applicants will be invited directly.



### YEAR 7 NOTICES

Happy New Year

Year 7 have roared into 2025 with the same amount of gusto and enthusiasm that they exited 2024 with! It has been lovely to hear all about their Christmas holiday adventures, to listen to them talk so warmly about the quality time they have spent with their families and to witness their genuine delight at being reunited with their friends back at school. The year group continues to behave impeccably, have maintained their positive work ethic and continue to display a positive attitude towards their learning - long may this continue. Special congratulations are awarded to Millie (7C1), Jemima (7C1) and Izzy (7H2) for topping the achievement points so far this week.....

However, we have noticed a slight decline in the standard of uniform, and this is something that I do wish to address. Please can we ask for your support with regards to the following issues - beautiful Christmas nails that need to be removed, leggings under skirts, skirts that are being rolled up ensuring that the length is completely unacceptable and the wearing of socks over tights. As a year group we felt that we could always pride ourselves on how smart and presentable Year 7 looked and this is certainly not something that we want to let slip.

We hope that everyone enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing break and that the children are fired up and ready to go once again. As the term progresses, we will be focusing a little more on fundraising for charity. The children have been putting forward suggestions of who they wish to raise money for and are going to working together as tutor groups to come up with fundraising ideas....watch this space!

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

No notices this week