



DIARY DATES

3 rd February		Tickets now available for the Vocal Festival (see below)
4 th February		College day 2:1:2 for production dress rehearsal.
6 th , 7 th and 8 th February		School Production – The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe
11 th February		Year 8 Options Evening for Parents & Carers
14 th February	2.55pm	College closes for half term (normal day)
22 nd February		Beginning of second half of Spring Term
24 th -28 th February		Year 11 Trials
25 th February		Scholastic Book Fair
13 th March	18.00	Pyramid Vocal Festival – Thornden Hall
26 th March	16.00-19.00	Year 11 Virtual Parents Meeting

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have spoken to a few parents recently who have asked about our work on diversity and behind some of the social media posts from last week, as they had concerns about what the school might or might not be doing. Last week, the new American government announced measures to restrict the promotion of diversity and equality in schools and colleges and this has prompted further debate in the UK about whether schools in the UK have "overdone" diversity work. I would like to outline the college's approach to diversity and equality

We must comply with the 2010 Equalities Act, which protects people with the following characteristics from discrimination: *age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity; race; religious belief; gender; sexual orientation; marriage/civil partnership*. There is a "Public Sector Equality Duty" which means that all those working in schools and other government funded organisations must uphold the 2010 Equality Act. Specifically, it means all public employees must do the following three things: (1) *eliminate discrimination against those with the protected characteristics listed above;* (2) *ensure that those with these characteristics have equal opportunities and remove barriers they might have to these opportunities;* (3) *foster good relations between those with and those without those characteristics.*

Schools must publish an Equalities Statement which explains how it will meet its responsibilities under the 2010 Equalities Act and the Public Sector Equality duty. You can find Wyvern's Equality Statement [Policies - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#); it was written in partnership with a parental focus group on equality and explains how we undertake our diversity work.

Schools must also promote the five "British Values" which, in 2011, the government defined as: *democracy, the rule of law, tolerance, individual liberty and respect for those from other cultures*. We have mapped what we teach to promote each of the 5 British values as well as what we teach to meet the 3 public sector equality duties. [You can find this map here](#) . You will be able to see from this, what individual subjects teach in relation to diversity and equality. [Our core RPS programme](#), followed by all students, also underpins our work on British Values and diversity. Further detail on what each subject covers is available on our website [Curriculum Overview - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care](#) . Just over a year ago, Ofsted inspected the college and were very happy with the approach we have taken on equality and diversity stating, "Pupils respect diversity and feel confident to be different."

In our diversity work, we do spend more time focusing on some issues and less time on others. This is in line with the principles of the DfE statutory safeguarding guidelines - Keeping Children Safe in Education - which acknowledges the need to *allow schools and colleges to take positive action, where it can be shown that it is proportionate, to deal with disadvantages affecting pupils or students with certain protected characteristics in order to meet their specific need.*

Sadly, we know, in the context our college, that people with some of the protected characteristics are especially vulnerable to discrimination, involving negative stereotyping and derogatory comments. We have identified race

and sexuality as the top priorities, with gender and disability next. That is why we devote more time to educating students on these

The next priority for our diversity work is to raise students' understanding of learning differences such as ADHD, autism and Downs Syndrome so students so we can promote better relations between those with a learning difference and those without one. Students tend to show kindness and friendship to those who they can visibly see as being different but do not always do this with students whose learning difference is not so visible. We also need to ensure that students with special needs participate in extra-curricular activities as much as students without a SEN do.

Ultimately, we aim to create a school where students learn to be kind to everyone and to respect each other's quirks and individuality. If we get this right, then equality and respect for diversity falls into place. We have an increasingly diverse college. We have 194 students whose ethnicity is not white-British, and we have 213 with an identified special education need. We have students who are practising Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Jews, Jehovah Witnesses, Buddhists and other faiths. We have students who are gay. We have transgender and non-binary students.

We want every one of our students to feel welcomed, liked, valued, respected, included and encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities we provide. That is the aim of our diversity and equality work; but it needs everyone's support to make that a reality.

Best wishes
Mr Rule

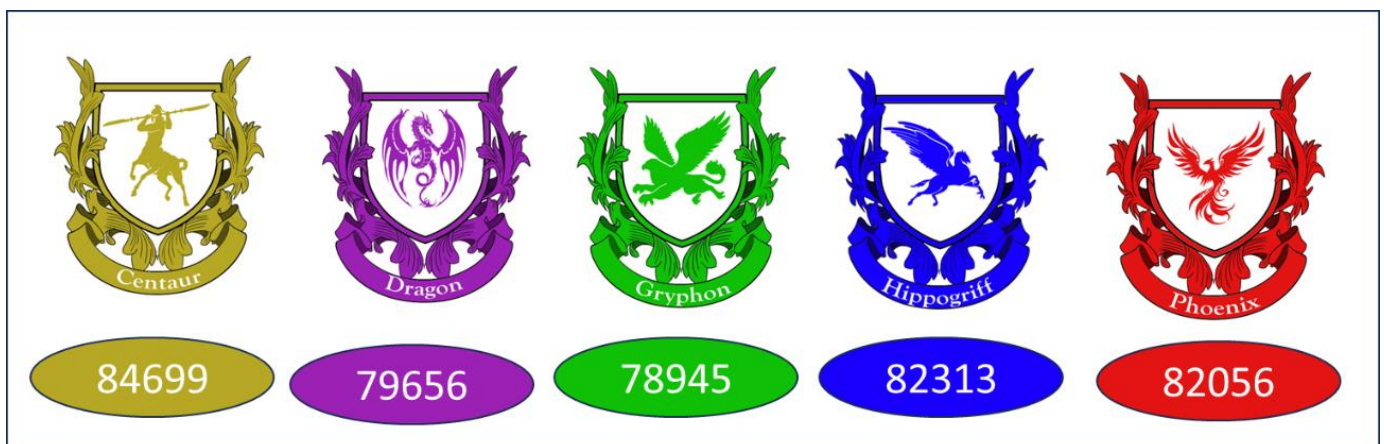
COLLEGE CULTURE

House Competitions

[Please click here for details of our house competitions for this term.](#) We'd love as many people as possible to be involved and look forward to seeing all the fantastic submissions.

Miss Read and Mrs Wiseman

House Points Update – 23rd January 2025



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

COMMUNITY NEWS

WYVERN COMMUNITY CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing? then why not come along and try our Community Choir, the emphasis is on having fun, meeting new people and developing vocal skills. Try out a free taster session, register your interest with us on 023 80 692678 / community@wyvern.hants.sch.uk
[Click here for more information.](#)

WYVERN SPORTS & FITNESS OFFERS

New Year, New You - Our new year offer runs until 15 Feb 2025. [Click the picture for more.](#)



THE QUEST FOR PEACE 7pm 4th February 2025

Hamble Valley Rotary are pleased to host this keynote lecture by Ed Arnold, Senior Research Fellow at RUSI (The Royal United Services Institute) an independent think-tank. RUSI embodies nearly two centuries of forward thinking, free discussion and reflection on international affairs, defence and security matters. The lecture will be followed by a question and answer session. [Click here for more details.](#)

COMMUNITY ORCHARD WORKSHOP

Please can you advertise our design workshop for the new community orchard at Knowle Park in your newsletter please. <https://www.fairoakgreening.org/communityevents>. Alongside this, the planting of the orchard will take place this Spring – details to follow soon.

PHOENIX JUNIOR NETBALL CLUB

A brand new junior netball club set up in Fair Oak for children aged 7-11 years. (Junior School Aged children) Starts: Thursday 6th February - 5.45-6.45pm - Wyvern Netball Court Please contact if you would like more details [click here](#) or email - phoenixjrnetball@outlook.com or find us on Facebook

GENERAL NOTICES

Keeping our Communities Tidy

The FOHHPC Grounds Team have reported that there has been an increase in littering within Fair Oak cemetery grounds. As you can appreciate, Fair Oak Cemetery is a place of reflection and respect for many in our community, and maintaining its cleanliness is of utmost importance.

We all need to recognise the importance of respecting public spaces and the consequences of littering. We would really appreciate it if you could reinforce this message at home, although we know that many of our families already appreciate their role in keeping our community tidy.

NHS Parent & Carers Webinar – Tuesday 25th March 2025

This free webinar is designed to assist parents and carers to support their children with their relationships, sexual health, and wellbeing. [Click here for more information.](#)

Online Safety Newsletter

[Click here to see the latest edition of our Online Safety Newsletter.](#) You can also access previous editions by going to [Keeping Students Safe - Wyvern College - Think Grow Care.](#)

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES




VOCAL FESTIVAL 2025



Tickets will be £7 and are available from Monday 3rd of February from <http://www.thorndenhall.co.uk>

SCHOOL PRODUCTION 2025 – THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Tickets are selling fast – get yours now.



Wyvern
College



Wyvern College Presents

*The Lion, the Witch and
the Wardrobe*

Thursday 6th February (7pm)
Friday 7th February (7pm)
Saturday 8th February (1.30pm & 7pm)

Tickets via www.ticketsource.co.uk/wyvern-college

CAREERS NEWS

Please can I remind you that the **deadline for Barton Peveril Sixth Form College, will be on the 14th of February 2025**. If your child needs any support with their application, then please ask them to contact myself – j.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



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 if you would like to find out more about the week's events.

Dear All Year 10& 11 Parents

South Hampshire College Group T Level Parent Information Evenings are taking place in the next two weeks. These events are a fantastic opportunity for parents/carers, school staff, and students in years 10 and 11 to learn about T Levels. [Please click here for more information.](#)

Kind Regards
Mrs Gough
Careers Leader

YEAR 7 NOTICES

No notices this week

YEAR 8 NOTICES

Another busy week for Year 8.

I know that many Year 8s are involved in the production which is a wonderful aspect of college life to be a part of. I wish them the best of luck with this and know that they will all be exhausted by the end of it but will have really benefited from this amazing experience with peers and staff.

I know that many students are also really thinking about their option choices, and we look forward to welcoming them and you at the week after next for our Options Evening.

We also have the [Year 8 Parents Evening](#) the week after half term and the [Booking System for this goes live on Monday 3rd February at 6pm](#) so be sure to book appointments for subjects your child is interested in studying to GCSE. I think it is important that our students attend these meetings. Prior to virtual evenings, children always attended and given that the entire conversation is about them, their progress and their choices, I think it is essential that they're part of this dialogue.

Could you please also make sure that students are bringing their logbook and other necessary equipment to school each day? We would really appreciate this support in ensuring that Y8s are ready to learn every day and time is not wasted trying to source equipment that all students should already bring to college - most do!

Praise news this week - I would like to congratulate 8H1 for earning the highest number of P1s last week (502), very closely followed by G2 (492) and in third place P1 (475). The leader board for students this term is as follows Erwann from H1 is in first place again with 56 P1s, Lyra from D2, Jack from G1 and Fern from P1 all in joint second place with 46 P1s and in third place Sophie from H1 with 40 points – amazing effort!

Mrs Howard
Year 8 Pastoral Lead

Year 8 Options 2025

Information about the options for Year 8 are now being uploaded onto [the Option page on our website](#). [Please click here for a letter](#) to parents and carers of Year 8 students regarding the timetable for this year's process.

YEAR 9 NOTICES

Sex and Relationship Education.

Please could we ask all parents [to click here for a letter regarding a unit on Sex and Relationships Education](#) Year 9 students will be taking as part of their Religious and Personal Studies (R.P.S.) lessons.

YEAR 10 NOTICES

Hello,

By 3pm tomorrow, all prefect interviews will have been completed. We will notify all applicants of the outcome on February 14th, 2025. After half term, we will begin the process of recruiting our head and senior (head of house) prefects.

The tutor groups continue to earn house points and currently, 10C2 are leading the year-to-date tally with an impressive 9509 points, closely followed by 10P2 with 8679 points. This week, 10C2 have earned a remarkable 363 house points, securing the top spot for the week. Hot on their heels are 10P2 and 10C1, each with 297 points for the week.

Keep up the great work, everyone!

Year 10 Pastoral Team

YEAR 11 NOTICES

Period 6 Revision Sessions

[Click here for the timetable for sessions for the coming week.](#)