



Thursday 6th February 2025

2024-2025 Issue NUMBER 20

DIARY DATES

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
4 th April		Last day of Spring Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week is college production week, and the cast of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* have already performed once this week - for year 5 students yesterday afternoon. Their first evening performance is tonight, with three further performances on Friday-Saturday. We wish the cast well and thank those of you who are coming to support the students in their performances.

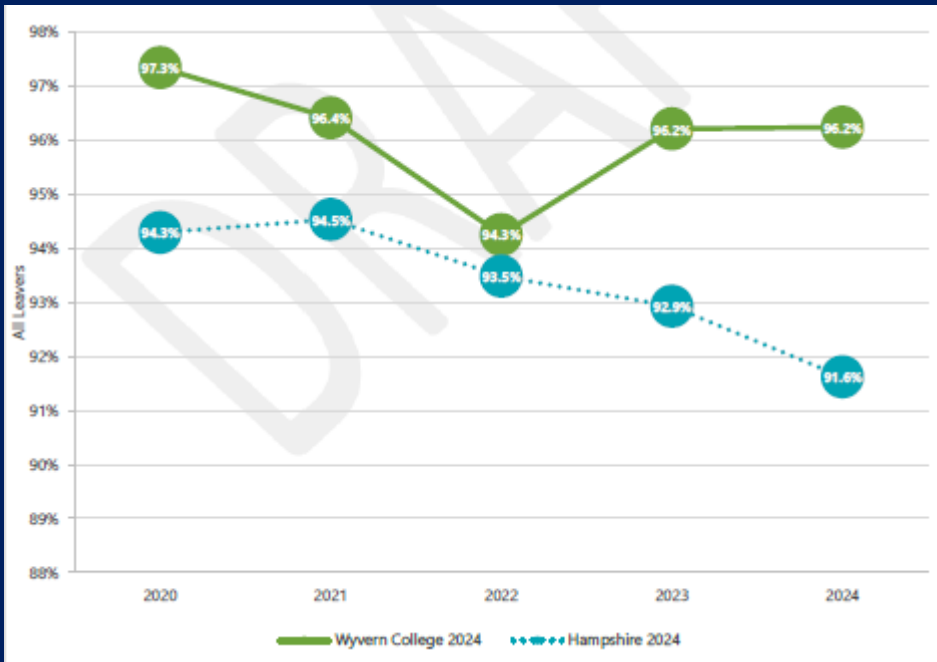
Reaching February always feels like a bit of a milestone and with the mornings and evenings getting lighter there is a sense that Spring is not too far off. It's a time of year when we can look forward positively and this theme is also one running through the Year 8 options' process. Students have been given information in assembly, tutor time and their RPS lessons to think about the courses they would like to study in years 9-11. Next Tuesday is Options' Evening when they can come into college with you to find out more about what these courses involve.

It is now unusual for schools to allow students to start their chosen course at the start of year 9 rather than year 10 and I thought it would be worth explaining our reasons for doing this as a way of showing what we are trying to achieve with our curriculum. We give three years for students to study options because it:

- Allows students to specialise earlier in the things they enjoy the most and to stop learning subjects they have no intention of continuing with.
- Provides time for important pre-learning in those optional subjects that are not included in the National Curriculum, and which are therefore not taught in Years 7-8. This means that all students can develop the crucial conceptual understanding and cultural capital needed to fully access the knowledge and skills required by the exam specifications. The three-year KS4 curriculum also brings this benefit to those subjects which are taught for one hour per week at KS3, but which get 2.5 hours per week in our Year 9 model for this important pre-learning work.
- Creates the space for students to study four options, rather than just three, as well as maintain timetabled lessons for RE, PSHE and Citizenship (RPS). Although the Year 9 start to KS4 narrows the curriculum earlier than a Year 10 start would, it means there is less narrowing across KS4, with students finishing KS4 having studied a wider range of subjects. This structure means that students have access a broader range of post-16 courses and keeps the curriculum "as broad as possible for as long as possible."
- Enables teachers to enrich the curriculum and go beyond the requirements of the exam specifications. This increases students' experience of each subject's scope and means that they do not have a curriculum in Years 10-11 which narrowly focuses them on passing exams.
- Offers all students the opportunity to pursue the English Baccalaureate, whilst also experiencing a broad curriculum. By creating space for a fourth option, students wishing to study the full Ebacc curriculum have half, rather than a third of their option choices free to pursue wider subjects.
- Enables leaders to plan a curriculum where the pace of learning facilitates deep learning. This ensures the curriculum is not just covered by teachers but understood by students: through talk, discussion, making mistakes and addressing misconceptions. The 3 year KS4 structure creates more capacity for

responsive teaching, with teachers adapting the pace of learning and balancing the need to consolidate and extend

Hampshire County Council has just published its destinations data report which analyses where last year's year 11 students went on to study, following their GCSEs. The key performance measure for schools here is the proportion of students who go on to study a high quality course which meets the government's RPA criteria. Once again, Wyvern students have outperformed those in Hampshire as a whole:



The table below shows the types of courses that student have gone on to study. Overall, 54% of students went on to study at Barton Peveril College, 17% at Eastleigh College and 9% at Peter Symonds College. We are very fortunate to have so many high-quality colleges in our local area for students to choose from.

Wyvern College					
Leaver Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Sixth Form College/School	144	168	152	153	174
FE College	63	64	87	85	72
Other Ed inc. Traineeship	0	0	0	-	0
Non-Emp Training (FT)	0	-	-	0	-
Emp (FT) inc. Apprenticeship	13	9	6	14	8

We will continue to work hard to educate students about all the different options available to them after they leave us to help them achieve the grades they need to move into these successfully.

Best wishes
Mr Rule
Headteacher

COLLEGE CULTURE

School Uniform: Why It Matters and How You Can Help

At Wyvern College, we have worked hard this year to increase the amount of praise, recognition, and rewards for students who meet our high expectations. In fact, for every 1 behaviour point issued, we have awarded 18 praise points—a testament to the positive culture we are building.

We are fortunate to already have significant support from many parents, and the majority of our students wear their school uniform with pride. Thank you to these parents for your support and thank you to the students who set a tone of high aspiration and disciplined behaviour by taking pride in your appearance each day and following our uniform policy.

However, when staff have to repeatedly challenge some students on uniform, it works against what we are trying to achieve. It delays learning, takes up valuable teacher time, and creates a culture where other students feel they can test the boundaries. More importantly, it puts unnecessary strain on student-staff relationships, which we are actively working to strengthen.

We need parental support to ensure uniform is not an issue. If every student arrived at school each day in the correct uniform, staff would be able to spend less time challenging dress code breaches and more time focusing on learning and building positive relationships.

Uniform Expectations

There are specific areas where we currently need your support:

Footwear

- Plain black sensible shoes.
- No trainers or “trainer type,” boots, toe caps, backless shoes, sandals, platforms, canvas, “plimssole type,” or creeper shoes.
- Shoes must not have any logos or labels, such as “Nike” or “Vans.”

Trousers & Skirts

- Plain mid/dark grey formal tailored trousers that cover the ankle.
- Jersey fabric is not permitted.
- Trousers should be waist high with no visibility of undergarments at the waist.
- Skirts should be worn at the appropriate length and not rolled up. This is a safeguarding issue—when skirts are too short, particularly when climbing stairs, it can lead to inappropriate situations.
-

Jewellery & Piercings

- One watch (not a smart watch).
- One plain ring.
- One plain stud in each lower ear lobe.
- Nose studs, retainers, or body piercings are not allowed. The taping of piercings is not permitted.
- Excessive items of jewellery will be confiscated.
- If your child needs to wear jewellery for religious reasons, please contact their Pastoral Leader to discuss what is permitted.

Make-up & Appearance

- Years 7, 8 & 9: Make-up is not permitted.
- Years 10 & 11: Discreet make-up can be worn.
- All year groups: False eyelashes are not to be worn.

Other Uniform Reminders

- No hoodies or sports tops—students should wear a waterproof coat instead.
- No leggings—only tailored trousers are allowed.
- Socks or tights, not socks over tights.

We appreciate and thank all parents who consistently support us by ensuring their child follows our uniform policy, arrives equipped for lessons, and reinforces our school rules—even if they do not personally agree with every one of them. The reality is that we cannot run a school where students pick and choose which rules to follow. That is also not how the world beyond school works.

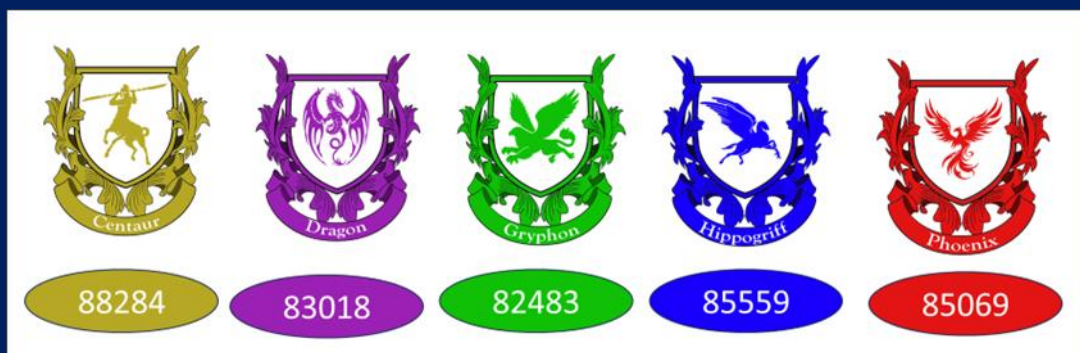
The more support we have from parents, the fewer uniform challenges we will have to address, and the more time we can dedicate to high-quality teaching and learning.

For full details of our uniform policy, please refer to the Logbook or visit our website. If you need any support with uniform, please contact the pastoral office in confidence.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

William Emeny
Deputy Headteacher

House Points Update – 6th February 2025



VACANCIES: To see our current 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 here for more.](#)

MINI FOREST PLANTING

15th February – Knowle Park. Come and help plant a mini-forest.

[Click here for more details.](#)

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Footlights Youth Theatre are performing Beauty and the Beast at The Point 5th-8th March. The production is being staged by 47 cast comprising of 7-18 year olds from local schools around the area, including come Wyvern students. [Click here for more details.](#)



MINI FOREST - KNOWLE PARK

TREE PLANTING

Come and help plant our mini forest & learn more about how important they are to wildlife

Scan to attend



SAVE THE DATE!

15.02.2025

MORNING SESSION 10-12PM
AFTERNOON SESSION 1-3PM

We've partnered with Hampshire Forest Partnership to plant a new 'mini forest' at Twynams Field, Knowle Park, Fair Oak.

In total 1500 mixed native species trees will be planted. And later in the spring, wildflowers will be sown.

Visit our website to get more information:
WWW.FAIROAKGREENING.ORG/COMMUNITYEVENTS

GENERAL NOTICES

Upcoming Vaccinations

The teenage boosters for tetanus, diphtheria, polio and meningitis are being held at college on 04th & 05th March. Please can we signpost parents to the following information regarding this programme.

<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/school-age-immunisations>

CHILD MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This week has been about promoting better mental health amongst young people.

Please find some Mental Health Week Tips for families in the following:

[tips-for-families-childrens-mental-health-week-2025 \(1\).pdf](#)

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Last month we brought together our new team of Anti-bullying Ambassadors who received their introduction training to the role. They are volunteers from across our year groups who will be offering support to peers and working with Mrs Emeny and Mrs Tyler towards receiving the [Diana Award](#).

We thank them for being prepared to come forward and look forward to hearing more from the group during the year.



ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER – Special Edition for Internet Safety Day 11th February 2025

[Click here for an additional newsletter](#) available to coincide with Internet Safety Day.

[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](#).

CHINESE BANQUET

The college canteen pulled out all the stops for last week's lunar new year celebrations.



BARTON PEVERIL ART COMPETITION

Barton Peveril is holding an Art Competition and would like all students to join in.

The competition will run between 3rd February 2025 - 22nd April 2025.

Year 9,10 & 11:

- 1st Place winner will receive a £100 Amazon Gift Card.
- Two Runners Up will receive a £25 Amazon Gift Card.

Year 7 & 8:

- 1st Place winner will receive a £100 Amazon Gift Card.
- Two Runners Up will receive a £25 Amazon Gift Card.

Please see [here](#) to find out more information about the art competition.

If your students have any questions, please ask them to email artcompetition@barton.ac.uk

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.](#)



Library News - Scholastic Book Fair

The book fair starts on Wednesday 26th Feb until Monday 3rd March, just after half term.

The students in year 7 & 8 will be invited to the book fair during one of their English lessons during that week.

[You can look through the online catalogue of titles available by clicking here.](#)

Purchases can be made using cash or a student's bank card. The £1.00 world book day voucher can be used at the book fair. Students can choose books for the school library. The more books which are bought the more free books we get for the school library.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

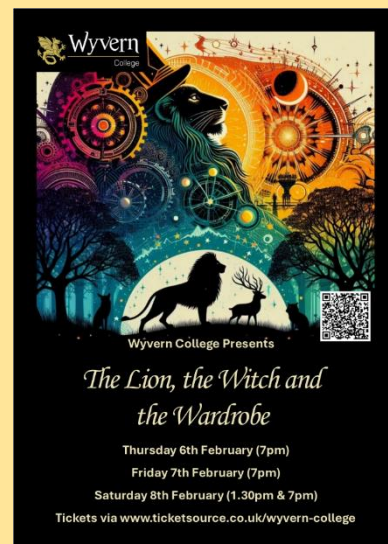


VOCAL FESTIVAL 2025

Tickets will be £7 and now are available from <http://www.thorndenhall.co.uk>

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

Friday and Saturday Performances are now sold out – some Thursday tickets are available



CAREERS NEWS

Unifrog

Has your child logged into Unifrog yet?

Unifrog is a universal destinations platform, designed to support students in making informed decisions about their futures, and has tools suitable for all year groups. Each student has their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them. They can take quizzes, search for information on specific subjects or careers, make shortlists of the things that interest, and get help writing CVs, cover letters, personal statements and more. They will also be able to keep a record of all relevant Careers activities and learning they do in school. [Click here for a logging in guide.](#)

Once they have logged onto they can try looking at the links below as its Apprenticeship Week:

- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/keywords/apprenticeships-in-law>
- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/keywords/apprenticeships-in-finance>
- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/keywords/work-in-retail-and-sales-with-aldi>

- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/keywords/work-in-transport-with-manchester-airport-group-mag>
- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/keywords/is-a-uk-apprenticeship-right-for-me>
- <https://www.unifrog.org/student/know-how/keywords/employer-profile-volvo-trucks-one-of-the-largest-manufacturers-of-heavy-duty-trucks-and-buses>

Kind Regards
Mrs Gough
Careers Leader

NHS ENGLAND SOUTHEAST - PHARMACY APPRENTICESHIPS ONLINE EVENT

Thinking about a career in pharmacy? Join this event to hear about all the apprenticeship roles available within the pharmacy profession and how you could train as a pharmacy technician, pharmacy support staff or science manufacturing technician. [Please click here for more details.](#)

South Hampshire College Group has an exciting opportunity for 15 students that are currently in YR10. They must be interested in a future of working within the hospitality and catering sector & building a career around their culinary skills. We are working in Partnership with Compass Group UK&I & Brakes to deliver this opportunity.

An exciting 10-week culinary programme for students aged between 14-16 years to enable them to learn how to cook safely while inspiring students to take their first step of their culinary journey with Compass Group. Upon completion of the Junior Chef Academy programme, students will host a special graduation evening, which features their own chosen special menu which they prepare and cook for the guests, including their families. The students will be the centre focus for their knowledge and skills and a special presentation ensures all students are recognised for their progress and achievements.

All students who complete the Junior Chef Academy will be invited to experience working within a Compass Group Kitchen and enjoy working closely with Compass Groups professional chefs.

Additionally, all students who are interested in perusing a career in hospitality, could potentially be added to Compass Groups Central Apprenticeship Team talent pool data, ensuring that when the time is right for the students, they can begin to consider their first steps on the Compass career ladder, including the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills and confidence through the culinary apprenticeships available.

This will take place at our Fareham College campus. The first date in learning will be Monday 23rd of March and each consecutive Wednesday (excluding May Half Term), the time each Wednesday will be 4.30pm – 6.30pm, they must make their own way here and have parental/guardian consent. They will be provided with chef whites.

I have attached a short power point you may wish to share with parents, it will be on a first come first served basis and there will be a short mini interview with one of the professional chefs before acceptance onto the course.

Please complete the form to register your interest
- <https://forms.office.com/e/rDY9Y2qsJJ>



YEAR 7 NOTICES

There is a definite buzz amongst the Year 7's as we all eagerly await the opening night of the school production. It has been lovely hearing the pupils talking animatedly about their roles or the fact that they are excited to see their friends on stage. We wish all the cast members good luck, and we look forward to watching the production ourselves later on this week.

The pupils have been voting for their chosen charity for this academic year and I can now reveal that Year 7 will be raising money for the local animal rescue charity Blue Cross. We are hoping to have a representative come and talk to the children about the work they do and how they will use the money that we will be raising for them. We will be meeting with the tutor group charity reps next week to discuss what our fundraising ventures will be.

Year 7 continue to make us proud with their efforts and achievements in lessons and around the school site. We would like to say a big 'well done' to 7D2 for accruing the most achievement points for meeting all the PRIDE expectations every lesson. We would also like to congratulate those pupils who continue to try really hard, persevere and do not give up when things get a bit tough. So well done and keep it up to Bethany (7C2), Rufus (7C2) and Lilly (7H2) who have achieved the most achievement points for this category.

Year 7 Pastoral Team

YEAR 8 NOTICES

Only one week away from it being February half term? I know it has been a short half term, but time is flying! I look forward to seeing many of you at the Option Evening next week - do try and come if you can and bring students with you. All subject areas will be available to discuss the courses in detail so that the upcoming decisions can be made in an informed way. Don't forget that it is also the Year 8 Subject Evening the first week back so do go online and make appointments with teachers. It will be a great opportunity after the Options Evening next week to discuss your child's progress and have those important discussions about which subjects they choose to study to GCSE.

Mrs Howard
Year 8 Pastoral Lead

Year 8 Options 2025

[Please click here for a letter regarding this coming week's Option Evening for Parents.](#)

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

No notices this week.

YEAR 11 NOTICES

Period 6 Revision Sessions

Please check the *Extra-curricular Support Sessions* section on the [Exam Website Page](#) for the Period 6 timetable for the coming week.