



# STOUR VALLEY

— COMMUNITY SCHOOL —

## Parent/Carer Bulletin

### ***Autumn Term***

#### ***Dates***

**Half**

**Term**

Mon 26 Oct - Fri

30 Oct 2020

### **Dates for your Diary**

- Monday 19 October - Year 11 *Abbeygate Live* virtual assembly with Abbeygate Sixth Form College, 1:40-2pm
  - Friday 23 October - Last school day before Half Term
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## Non-pupil

### Day

Fri 20 Nov 2020

### Autumn Term

ends

Fri 18 Dec 2020

### Christmas

Break

Mon 21 Dec

2020 - Fri 1 Jan

2021

### Spring Term

starts

Mon 4 Jan 2021

## ***Upcoming***

## ***Events this***

## ***October***

**Monday 19**

**October**

Year

11 *Abbeygate*

*Live virtual*

assembly with

Abbeygate Sixth

Form College,

1:40-2pm

**Friday 23**

**October**

Last school day

before Half

Term

## Local COVID Alert Levels

General guidance for the public on the new COVID Alert Levels (medium, high and very high) can be found [here](#). **Stour Valley Community School is in a medium alert level area, so no changes for us currently.**

The DfE has confirmed that in areas at Local COVID Alert Level *High* or Local COVID Alert Level *Very High*, the DfE expects that education and childcare providers will normally remain open for all pupils, with the additional expectation that where pupils in year 7 and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained.

Accordingly, DfE guidance has been updated to refer to the new alert levels, including:

[Guidance for parents and carers of children attending out-of-school settings during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

[Protective measures for holiday or after-school clubs and other out-of-school settings for children during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

## Updating Contact Details

May we kindly request that our parents/carers ensure that contact details are accurate and up to date. If you need to update a recent change in mobile, email, address etc, please use the SIMS Parent App. Should you require login details for the app, please contact K Eady at: [keady@stourvalley.org](mailto:keady@stourvalley.org)

## Developing Speaking & Listening in all our Students

For many years now research in education has shown the enormous impact that oracy has on student wellbeing, learning and post-16 opportunities. The ability for all SVCS students to speak and listen effectively is a key priority for us as a school.

Developing your son or daughter's ability to use a wider range of vocabulary and speak clearly in a variety of situations is something we will actively develop in their time in school with us. With this in mind, we would like to ask for your support. Each term, all the staff at SVCS will focus on a single whole-school oracy target. This term the target is to encourage all students to complete their sentences in conversations with us; whether they are in a corridor, classroom or outdoors. This

may involve giving a student a little more time to get their thoughts in order. It may also involve us encouraging a student to sustain the point they wish to make.

We would value your help in this. If, as parents and carers, you are aware of the target and in a position to further support at home, we can make even further progress!

If you'd like any more information, please get in touch. In the meantime, thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes - *Kate Terry*

## **Languages Week Poster Competition Results**

Well done and a huge thank you to everyone who entered the poster competition. All participants will receive House Points for "Taking part in a House Competition".

The following students have been selected for the national competition organised by Routes Into Languages and their work has been sent off for judging: *Mack King, Maisy Learmouth, Gabriella Hanagan, Fearne Pritchett, Ruby Steel and Lily Grace.*

Each of the selected students will also receive House Points for "Excellent Homework" and "Excellent piece of work". Well done everyone. Let's hope we hear some good news soon!

## **School Field Closure - Break and Lunch Times**

The school field will be closed at break and lunch from Monday 19 October. Unfortunately, due to the field becoming too muddy and slippery underfoot, it will be closed at break and lunch from Monday. This does mean that the concrete areas outside will become much busier than they have been up to this point. Out of consideration for the health and safety of the staff and students, who are sharing this more limited outdoor space, there will be no ball games of any kind allowed. Please do not allow your child(ren) to bring balls to school, as they will not be able to use them. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.

## Year 11 Post-16 Information

The Year 11 students should now start to look at their post-16 options for next year, it will come round very quickly! Due to the current situation, we are unable to hold whole year assemblies, so we have asked each post-16 provider to send us a presentation which the tutors will show during tutor time. Prospectuses are being sent in the next few weeks and we will advise you of the open evenings (these will be virtual) in due course. We would like all students to have applied to their chosen college/sixth form by Christmas. Students can apply for more than one course, with more than one provider. They can then make a decision when they receive their GCSE results next year. If you have any questions, please contact [keady@stourvalley.org](mailto:keady@stourvalley.org)

## Year 11 Post-16 Open Events

### The Sixth Form College Colchester

Please see the information below regarding applications:

*Online applications open Friday 16 October for September 2021 entry and applications must be made online via the website: [www.colchsfc.ac.uk](http://www.colchsfc.ac.uk)*

The general 'Introduction to the College' can be found at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kp\\_-JCnAOBY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kp_-JCnAOBY)

Prospectus: <https://www.colchsfc.ac.uk/documents/index.php#prospectus>

Further details, for those considering making an application, can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWfrFyljWxg>

How to choose your course of study

guide: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mv9SwndRIQo>

Please look out for more material on YouTube as part of their online 'Open Evening' - to be launched on 23 October 2020.

### Otley College, Ipswich Virtual Open Event

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ipswich-campus-taster-event-tickets-120180937419>

1 December 2020 – 5:30-8pm

27 February 2020 – 9:30-12 noon

5 May 2020 – 5:30-8pm

### Hills Road Virtual Open Events

19 and 20 October from 4pm - visit:

<https://www.hillsroad.ac.uk/open-evenings> - (updated link)

### **Long Road Sixth Form, Cambridge Virtual Tour and Open Evenings**

17 and 18 November 5-8:30pm.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-fN8xSWEiU&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/LongRd6thFormCollegeVirtualOpenEvenings1.pdf>

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/VirtualOpenEveningsNovember2020.pdf>

### **Lost Property**

If your child has recently lost/misplaced their coat/jacket or any bags, please invite them to visit Reception to check lost property so we can reunite owners with the items in or storage - thank you

### **Attendance Guidance**

Please view the following link for guidance regarding attendance if your child is unwell:

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/Guidanceforparentsrefattendanceatschoolifchildisunwell.pdf>

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### ***Important Letters & Notices***

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/ClareCommunityHub-MemoriesareGolden.pdf>

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/YOPEYpandemicInitiativesAgreementUnder18s.pdf>

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/WantedYoungVolunteersToSupportLonelyCareHomeResidentsSecV.pdf>

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/images/SampleLettersBy11to16yearolds.pdf>

