

Parent Carer Bulletin

Autumn Term Dates

20 December, last day of Autumn Term and **early closure at 12 noon**

23 December - 3 January, Christmas Break

Events this Half Term

Tuesday 3 December, Ski Trip Information Evening, 6-7pm

Thursday 5 December, Year 9 Parents and Carers Evening, 4-7pm

Monday 9 December, Clare Community Carols at the Clare Baptist Church, 7-9pm

Monday 16 December, Awards Assembly Week

Tuesday 17 December, Year 7 Pantomime Trip, 8:30am -3:30pm

Wednesday 18 December, Stour Valley Christmas Concert, 7-9pm approx.

Friday 20 December, last day of Autumn Term and **early closure of 12pm**

Dates for your diary week commencing 2 December:

- **Tuesday 3 December - Ski Trip Information Evening, 6-7pm**
- **Thursday 5 December - Year 9 Parents and Carers Evening, 4-7pm**

PSHE Department Update

Please find below a link to this week's SVCS PSHE Department Update for your viewing:

[Autumn Term 2 Week 5.pdf](#)

Clare Castle Country Park Calendar 2025

We are delighted to share a preview of the Clare Castle Country Park Calendar 2025 including photography by our very own students. If you would like to purchase this calendar for the upcoming year, at £8.10 each, the option is now live on your ParentPay account.



Technology Rotations

Technology rotations change next week (commencing 2 December), if your child is moving into Food Technology, they will require a take home container. Please also check EduLink each week for additional ingredients that they may need for assessments.

Free School Meals Guidance

We would like to remind you that the guidance for Vive Canteen Meal Deals is available via our website as follows:

[https://stourvalley.org/downloads/Vive Price List - November 2024.pdf](https://stourvalley.org/downloads/Vive_Price_List_-_November_2024.pdf)

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please familiarise them with this menu so they can select the correct items when visiting the canteen. Thank you.

Student General Medication

With the arrival of the colder season, many students are battling common colds, coughs and sore throats, which require medication to alleviate symptoms throughout the school day. In the event that your child attends school with any such symptoms, we kindly ask that you provide them with Calpol/Paracetamol or any other applicable medication for them to hand in at Reception. Medication will then be named, safely stored and administered to your child as needed. Below is the student medication form for your completion if you do require your child to take medication, that you have provided, during the school day.

[SVCS Student Medication Form 2024-25.pdf](#)

Governor Vacancies

Governors are a team of volunteers who oversee the management of the school by supportively challenging the Headteacher and staff. We do this by visiting the school, speaking to staff, students and parents/carers, and meeting formally with the senior management team on a regular basis. The core aims of governance are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its students, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

No experience is required - just a healthy curiosity and a willingness to ask questions in order to ensure our students and staff maximise their potential. You don't need to be a teacher or know about education; in fact, you probably have many skills from your own life and work which would be invaluable.

The amount of time you would need to commit depends on your willingness to get involved, but there would be a minimum expectation of attendance at three Local Governing Body meetings per year and arranging to visit the school once per term to carry out monitoring activities.

We currently have vacancies for governors so, if you would like to join the team of people responsible for oversight of many aspects of the school, or would like to find out more about what it means to be a governor, please contact Nick Vosper, Chair of Governors at SVCS at governors@stourvalley.org

Contacting the School

Your child's form tutor should be your first point of contact for any concerns or issues. They will be able to deal with your enquiry or will pass it on to the most appropriate member of staff who may contact you. If the matter is directly related to a specific subject, the subject teacher or head of department is the best contact. All staff email addresses are on the website (a link here): [Staff Contacts - Stour Valley Community School](#)

If you call the school, you will appreciate that staff also have teaching commitments which means they may not always be available to take your call immediately. Also, please do not turn up at the school expecting to see a member of staff without a prior appointment.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Use of Mobile Phones

As a polite reminder, students are not allowed to use their mobile phones during the school day. If they are feeling unwell or need to contact home, they must visit reception. Likewise, if you could please contact reception if you have any messages you would like to be passed on.



Important Letters & Notices

<https://support.overnetdata.com/knowledge-base/how-do-parents-update-their-information-in-edulink-one/> - *How do parents/carers view and update information in EduLink One*

studentabsence@stourvalley.org - *Stour Valley Community School Attendance reporting email address*

safe@stourvalley.org - *Stour Valley Community School Safeguarding email address*

Stour Valley Community School

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