

# Parent Carer Bulletin

## Autumn Term Dates

**2 & 3 September**, Non-pupil Days  
**4 September**, Autumn Term commences  
**3 October**, Year 6 Open Evening and **early closure at 2pm**  
**28 October - 1 November**, Half Term  
**22 November**, Non-pupil Day  
**20 December**, last day of Autumn Term and **early closure at 12 noon**  
**23 December - 3 January**, Christmas Break

## Events this Half Term

**Friday 20 September**, Non-uniform Day, Jeans for Genes  
**Tuesday 24 September**, Year 7 & 9 Individual school photographs with Kittle Photographic, 8:30am-12pm  
**Thursday 26 September**, European Day of Languages  
**Thursday 26 September**, Post-16 & Careers Evening, 5-7pm  
**Friday 27 September**, Thank an LSA Day  
**Wednesday 2 October**, Art & Food Collaboration Evening, 5-7pm  
**Thursday 3 October**, **early closure at 2pm** (due to Year 6 Open Evening)  
**Thursday 3 October**, Year 6 Open Evening 6-8pm  
**Friday 4 October**, Influenza School Based Immunisation Programme for Years 7-9, 9am-2pm  
**Monday 7 October**, Year 6 Open Week Tours 8:50am and 2pm  
**Tuesday 8 October**, Year 6 Open Week Tours 8:50am and 2pm  
**Wednesday 9 October**, Year 6 Open Week Tours 8:50am and 2pm  
**Friday 11 October**, Influenza School Based Immunisation Programme for Years 10-11, 9am-2pm  
**Thursday 17 October**, Year 10/11 Art Trip to The Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge, 8:30am-3pm  
**Thursday 24 October**, Enhancement Day

## *Dates for your diary week commencing 16 September:*

- **Friday 20 September**, Non-uniform Day, Jeans for Genes

## *Jeans for Genes 2024*



**Non-uniform day: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Wear your own clothes and raise money for the charity Jeans for Genes.**

**Suggested donation £1**

**House points for those wearing double denim.**

***This is not fancy dress - usual jewellery, make-up and hair rules apply.***

***Remember to bring your bus pass and equipment too!***

[https://youtu.be/eaizcIoJ6Wk?si=bsdn\\_ndMuGxnall-](https://youtu.be/eaizcIoJ6Wk?si=bsdn_ndMuGxnall-)

## *Post-16 Careers Evening*

Thursday 26 September 5-7pm, Post-16 and Careers Evening open to all Year 11 students and their parents and carers.

## *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.

## Art & Food Collaboration Evening

Stour Valley's Art & Food Collaboration Evening on Wednesday 2 October, 5-7pm, will be held in the Art room. We welcome you to join us in celebrating the wonderful creative work of our students. Please use the link below to RSVP tickets, we would be delighted to see you there:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q67sPUk2cEGhwbfn3XLnNaxkIJ6QhhJsQOZZ-6Gi1UMFMwWIZUVFQ4MEJNWTIMQINCV1ZFS0pOTC4u>



## English Revision and Reading Challenge

Year 11 English GCSE revision will move to after school on Mondays. This will start on the 16 September.

Over this week, the students have been introduced to the Stour Valley 6. This is a new reading challenge to encourage our students to read a variety of diverse texts throughout their time at SVCS. Students will be rewarded for reading each book from the list, as well as when they complete the challenge for their year group. Below is a list of the texts for your reference (please note each year group also has a 'free choice' book they can read):

- **Year 7** - October October by Katya Balin, Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson, El Deafo by Cece Bell, Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah, You are a Champion by Marcus Rashford
- **Year 8** - A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness, Good Night Mr Tom by Michelle Magorian, Coraline by Neil Gaiman (the graphic novel version), The Bread Winner by Deborah Ellis, The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank
- **Year 9** - The Bunker Diary by Kevin Brooks, Lord of the Flies by William Golding, Tsunami Girl by Julian Sedgwick, The Crossing by Manjeet Mann, Black and British by David Olusoga
- **Year 10** - Life of Pi by Yann Martel, 1984 by George Orwell, Maus by Art Spiegelman, A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini, My Name is Why by Lemn Sissay

## Be Ambitious - Quentin Blake Exhibition

**An opportunity to add to your SV Passport – 'Be Ambitious'.  
Visit Moyse's Hall, Bury St Edmunds' Quentin Blake exhibition.**



Take some photo's of your visit and make up a Word doc or Ppt (max 2 slides/pages) showing your trip. Explain what you did and saw and if you enjoyed it. Use this as evidence.



Running until 6<sup>th</sup> October there is a Quentin Blake exhibition. You may recognise his work from Roald Dahl books.



## Free Art & Design Saturday Club at Gainsborough's House

The National Saturday Club programme is open to 13–16-year-olds of all abilities (Years 8, 9, 10 & 11) and in particular works to engage those who may face additional barriers to success. It's a unique model and taking part can be a transformational opportunity for young people:

[you can hear from past members in this short film.](#)

Gainsborough's House will be running an Art & design Saturday club starting on 5<sup>th</sup> October, throughout the academic year and we would welcome any pupils you feel would benefit from this opportunity.

Extensive research shows **93%** of National Saturday Club members built their skills, **81%** grow in confidence, and **84%** understand more about further study and careers. Many young people and their parents credit the Club with positive impacts on their academic studies:

*"My communication skills have improved in class, so I am able to get more work done which helps me achieve better at school"* **Club member**

*"My daughter has made good friends, had fantastic experiences and has grown socially, emotionally and academically as a result of the Saturday Club"* **Parent**

*"It's such a great opportunity for our students. They've had access to the university's facilities, academics, cultural trips and all for free."* **Teacher**

For more information and to get young people involved, please encourage them to apply via this link: [saturday-club.org/join](https://saturday-club.org/join) and selecting 'Gainsborough's House Sudbury Art & Design Club' from the drop down box.

[What's the National Saturday Club like? - National Saturday Club \(saturday-club.org\)](#)



## 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 their information in EduLink One

[studentabsence@stourvalley.org](mailto:studentabsence@stourvalley.org) - Stour Valley Community School Attendance reporting email address

[safe@stourvalley.org](mailto:safe@stourvalley.org) - Stour Valley Community School Safeguarding email address

### Stour Valley Community School

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