

Parent Carer Bulletin

Autumn Term Dates

Non-pupil days, 1 & 2 September

Autumn Term Starts, 3 September

Half Term, 27-31 October

Non-pupil Day, 21 November

Christmas Break, 22 December – 2 January 2026

Non-pupil Day, 5 January 2026

Events this October

Tuesday 14 October, professional photographer on site for prospectus and website images

Wednesday 15 October, Year 11 King's Trust enrichment trip at Colchester Zoo, 8:30am-3pm

Thursday 23 October, GCSE Drama trip to The Quay Theatre, 7:30-10:30pm

Thursday 23 - 25 October, GCSE History residential visit to the Netherlands

Friday 24 October, final full school day before Half Term

Dates for your diary week commencing 13 October:

- **Tuesday 14 October** - professional photographer on site for prospectus and website images
- **Wednesday 15 October** - Year 11 King's Trust enrichment trip at Colchester Zoo, 8:30am-3pm

Photography Consent

We have a professional photographer visiting the school on **Tuesday 14 October**. The photographer will be taking pictures of students and the school to update our prospectus and the images on our school website.

To ensure that we have the correct permissions, **all parents and carers must complete this form [Photo/Video Parental Consent](#) urgently if you have not already done so.** This will allow us to identify any students who should **not** be photographed. **Thank you to parents and carers who have already done so.**

We kindly ask that you also speak with your child to ensure they understand that they should not be included in any photographs if permission has not been granted. This serves as an additional safeguard to make sure we do not use photos of your child without consent.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Enhancement Day

On 16 October Years 10 and 11 will be off timetable for our first Enhancement Day.

Year 11 will have sessions on driving theory and car maintenance delivered by Mr Lee and Mr Stephens, exploring and applying for post-16 places with Mr Sims and their second mock interview, a session on Cervical Screening with Suffolk nurses, another on the World of Work with the Department for Work and Pensions, and finally a session on Exam Stress with OM Health and Wellbeing Consultancy ([OM Health & Wellbeing Consultancy | Bury St. Edmunds | Suffolk \(omhwc.org.uk\)](#))

Year 10 will have sessions on their options for Post-16 choices with the Eastern Education Group ([Home - Eastern Education Group](#)), Finance with representatives from Reach Haverhill ([Reach Haverhill : Reach Haverhill \(reachcp.org.uk\)](#)), Sexual Health with OM Health and Wellbeing Consultancy ([OM Health & Wellbeing Consultancy | Bury St. Edmunds | Suffolk \(omhwc.org.uk\)](#)), Drug Awareness with Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Service ([Suffolk InfoLink | Turning Point's Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Service](#)) and finally, on understanding Sexual Harassment run by SVCS staff.

If you have any questions about the day, please contact Miss L Howard by email at: lhoward@stourvalley.org Further information about how this day connects with our Futures curriculum can be found here: [Futures \(PSHE Plus\) - Stour Valley Community School](#)

Flu Immunisation Session Update

Vaccination UK returned to SVCS today to complete the second half of the scheduled immunisation session. Unfortunately, due to a delay in vaccine supply, they were unable to administer immunisations to all students with consent.

Please be assured that Vaccination UK have confirmed they will return to SVCS to complete the session. As soon as we receive confirmation of the new date, we will update you accordingly.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Poppy Appeal

The Poppy Appeal donation box will be available at reception from Thursday 16 October. Your child is invited to make a donation in exchange for a poppy, wrist band, reflector etc. Thank you in advance for any support given to this appeal.

Confectionery Tub Donations

We are reaching out with a small request that could make a big difference to our Food Department.

If you have any **empty confectionery tubs** (such as those used for chocolates or sweets) that you no longer need, we would be incredibly grateful for your donation. These tubs are a fantastic resource for storage and organisation in our food classrooms, and your contributions will help support our students' learning in a practical and sustainable way.

Donations can be handed in at the school office or sent in with your child. Thank you so much for your continued support – we truly appreciate it!

Fundraising Event – Custard Comedy Nights

This term we are delighted to announce that Custard Comedy Nights will be coming to Clare, using the school hall as a venue to bring some big names to Suffolk's smallest town. This promises a brilliant night out on your doorstep - with three quality acts that you would usually expect to travel to see! Custard Comedy is a very experienced comedy promotions team holding events all over the UK - with many in Cambridgeshire and surrounding counties in particular. We work with a number of incredible comics and have seen many use this grassroots network to help break their careers.

On 11 October we are thrilled to have the very funny writer, comedian and broadcaster, Bob Mills as our headliner as well as opening sets from Jules O'Brian and David Luck. There will also be a fully stocked bar and a pizza food truck! Tickets are on sale now from: [Custard Comedy in Clare Tickets, Sat, Oct 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Please do come and support our comedy nights which will be raising money for the school. Tables and group bookings are available.





**Haverhill
Open
day**

WS Training offers a Study Programme for young people aged 16-18, and up to 25 for those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Join us!

🕒 20TH OCTOBER 14:00-17:30
📍 RUBINE HOUSE, MANOR ROAD, HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK CB9 0EP
✉ APPLICATIONS@WSTRAINING.CO.UK

Join us on our Open Day and discover how WS Training can help shape your future!



Important Notices

- **SVCS Uniform Donations**
We would be very grateful to receive any surplus or outgrown SVCS uniform that you would be happy to donate to the school. Donated items will be added to our Nearly New Stand in order to supply second hand uniform to students where needed.
- *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.*
- *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.

Important Letters and Information

- [Years 7-10 Uniform Changes 2025 1.pdf](#) - *Years 7-10 Uniform changes letter*
- [Vive Price List - SEPTEMBER 2025.pdf](#) - *Vive Canteen Price Guide*
- 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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