

# Parent Carer Bulletin

## *Autumn Term Dates*

**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*

**Tuesday 22 October**, 7EE English to Clare Library and Harris & Harris Bookshop 1:40-3pm

**Thursday 24 October**, Enhancement Day

**Friday 25 October**, 7ED English to Clare Library and Harris & Harris Bookshop, 1:40-3pm

**Friday 25 October**, Year 9 and GCSE Drama Footloose the Musical at The New Wolsey Theatre, 5:45-11pm

**Friday 25 October**, final full school day before half term break

## *Dates for your diary week commencing 21 October:*

- **Tuesday 22 October** - 7EE English to Clare Library and Harris & Harris Bookshop, 1:40-3pm
- **Thursday 24 October** - Enhancement Day
- **Friday 25 October**, 7ED English to Clare Library & Harris & Harris Bookshop, 1:40-3pm
- **Friday 25 October**, Year 9 and GCSE Drama Footloose the Musical at The New Wolsey Theatre, 5:45-11pm
- **Friday 25 October**, final full school day before half term break

## *Enhancement Days 2024*

On Thursday 24 October we will have the first of our three Enhancement Days this year, where all year groups will be taken off their usual timetable and will follow a variety of activities delivered by SVCS staff and external providers. We hope the students will make the most of the day and would encourage you to discuss the activities with them at home. A brief outline of the activities is below:

Year 11: Revision delivered by [Learning Performance - Learning Performance](#), Post-16, Contraception and Self-Examination delivered by School Nurses and Managing Exam Stress delivered by [OM Health & Wellbeing Consultancy | Bury St. Edmunds | Suffolk \(omhwc.org.uk\)](#)

Year 10: Finance delivered by [Reach Haverhill : Reach Haverhill \(reachcp.org.uk\)](#), Post-16 next steps delivered by [West Suffolk College - Diplomas, Degrees, Apprenticeships & T Levels \(wsc.ac.uk\)](#), Knife Crime delivered by [www.colchester-united-cf.class4kids.co.uk](#), Mock Interviews and a STEM challenge.

Year 9: Healthy Relationships delivered by [OM Health & Wellbeing Consultancy | Bury St. Edmunds | Suffolk \(omhwc.org.uk\)](#), County Lines delivered by Suffolk Constabulary, a STEM challenge, Mental Health and Social Media and First Aid including CPR.

Year 8: Electrical Manager Sam Fraser, Recognising Fake Content, a STEM challenge, a Design challenge and an English Challenge.

Year 7: Japanese, Puppetry, Space, Art and a STEM challenge.

## *Reminder for Aladdin Production Cast and Crew*

If your child has not returned their slip for the Aladdin school show, please remind them to do so by Friday 25 October, thank you.

## *Year 11 Revision Texts*

Year 11 revision texts will be available for one more week. The cost is £8, currently live on ParentPay, for the following revision texts: Reading and Writing for English Language, Macbeth, A Christmas Carol and An Inspector Calls or Coram Boy.

When the texts arrive, students will receive them in their English lessons.

## *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](mailto:governors@stourvalley.org)

## *Flu Vaccinations Drop-in Clinic Appointments*

If your child(ren) were not seen by Vaccination UK in school on 4 or 11 October and you would like them to receive the Influenza vaccination, please use the link below as drop-in clinic appointments are available:

<https://eastanglia.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2024/book>

## *Year 10 and 11 - A Christmas Carol with Quantum Theatre*



*Please note that if we do not sell enough tickets, we will unfortunately not be able to go ahead with the visit from Quantum Theatre for Years 10 and 11.*

## Suffolk New College Game in a Day

Suffolk New College are delighted to welcome you to their SNC Game in a day workshops. Learn the skills required to work in the Games/Animation industry! They have a great program planned which will help you create fun and engaging content from scratch. **For those in school years 10 & 11 only.**



Are you...  
in year 10 or 11?  
interested in games design?

**GAME  
IN A  
DAY**

30th October 2024

Book your free place [www.suffolk.ac.uk/games](http://www.suffolk.ac.uk/games)

Suffolk New College

The poster features a yellow background with a computer monitor displaying a game level, a game controller, and a screwdriver. The text is in a mix of bold, black, and blue fonts.

## 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.



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## 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](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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