

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

Monday 4 November, Students return from half term break
Friday 8 November, SVCS Remembrance Parade, 10:55-11:15am
Monday 11 November, visit to the Bury St Edmunds Remembrance Parade 9am-1pm
Tuesday 12 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 1
Wednesday 13 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 2
Thursday 14 November, Quantum Theatre A Christmas Carol for Years 10 and 11, periods 3 & 4
Thursday 14 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 3
Friday 15 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 4
Thursday 21 November, **Purple Day**, non-uniform event
Thursday 21 November, Year 11 2024 Leavers Certificates Evening. 5-6pm
Friday 22 November, Non-pupil Day
Wednesday 27 November, Year 7 English Reward Trip, 8:50am-12:50pm
Wednesday 27 November, Year 8 NHS HPV vaccination session, 9am-12pm
Tuesday 3 December, Ski Trip Information Evening, 6-7pm
Thursday 5 December, Year 9 Parents and Carers Evening, 4-7pm
Monday 16 December, Awards Assembly Week
Tuesday 17 December, Year 7 Pantomime Trip, 8:30am -2:30pm
Thursday 19 December, Stour Valley Christmas Concert, 7-9pm approx.
Friday 20 December, early closure of 12pm

Dates for your diary week commencing 4 November:

- **Monday 4 November** - students return from half term break
- **Monday 8 November** - SVCS Remembrance Parade, 10:55-11:15am

Bedrock Learning

If any parents and carers are interested and would like to learn more about Bedrock Learning, they are running an online event on Thursday 21 November. This session will give you an introduction to the online platform to understand why it is a useful program for students and show you the learning your child will be doing. If you would like to attend, you can sign up here: [Bedrock Parents' Evening: 2024/25 \(getcontrast.io\)](https://getcontrast.io)

English Revision Books

Please be aware that all students who have currently paid for the revision books will have now received them. Unfortunately, we are still awaiting the delivery of A Christmas Carol. As soon as it arrives it will be delivered to those same students.

We have also extended the payment deadline for the following revision texts - Reading, Writing, A Christmas Carol, Macbeth and either An Inspector Calls or Coram Boy, until 6 November. This has now been amended on ParentPay.

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

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.

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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