

Parent Carer Bulletin

Autumn Term Dates

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 11 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 1, 8:30am-2:45pm
Monday 11 November, visit to the Bury St Edmunds Remembrance Parade 9am-1pm
Tuesday 12 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 2, 8:30am-2:45pm
Wednesday 13 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 3, 8:30-2:45pm
Wednesday 13 November, Year 10 Prince's Trust enrichment trip to Sudbury Escape Room, 9am-1pm
Thursday 14 November, Quantum Theatre A Christmas Carol for Years 10 and 11, periods 3 & 4
Thursday 14 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 4, 8:30am-2:45pm
Friday 15 November, Meet the Keyworker Event Day 5, 8:30am-2:45pm
Friday 15 November, CEC trip to Ipswich High School, 8:15am-3:30pm
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 11 November:

- **Monday 11 November - Meet the Keyworker Event Day 1, 8:30am-2:45pm**
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- **Tuesday 12 November - Meet the Keyworker Event Day 2, 8:30am-2:45pm**
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Year 8 Collaborative Poetry

During Enhancement Day, I had the privilege of working with the year 8s doing collaborative poetry. We listened to the 'Ode to Autumn' by John Keates to get a flavour of what could be written and then we went for a walk in the glorious Autumn sunshine with clipboards and really noticed the changes that were occurring in the nature around us.

We then came back to the classroom with all our notes and in pairs, wrote lines of poetry. We wrote them on strips of paper and began to order them in a big ladder like structure in the centre of the classroom floor. I then took them away and edited them slightly (adding only punctuation or rearranging words - never adding any). I did this for all five groups and these are what we created. I'm sure you will agree that the students did a fabulous job and these are really evocative. I'm very proud of all the students and thrilled that this has inspired a few of them to write poems of their own. A Poetry Club will be a new club coming soon where students can be introduced to all kinds of poetry styles from all over the world which should help inspire us to write our own. - *Mrs A Stokes, Teacher of English*

[COLLAB POETRY GROUP 1.pdf](#)

[COLLAB POETRY GROUP 2.pdf](#)

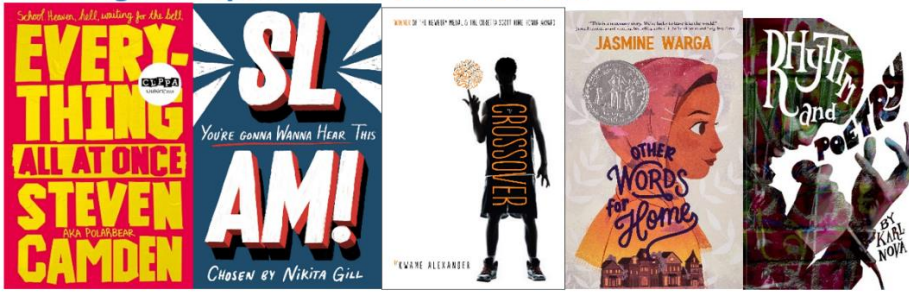
[COLLAB POETRY GROUP 3.pdf](#)

[COLLAB POETRY GROUP 4.pdf](#)

[COLLAB POETRY GROUP 5.pdf](#)

English Reading Recommendations

Year 7: Performance Poetry - Autumn 2 SVCS English Department Recommends...



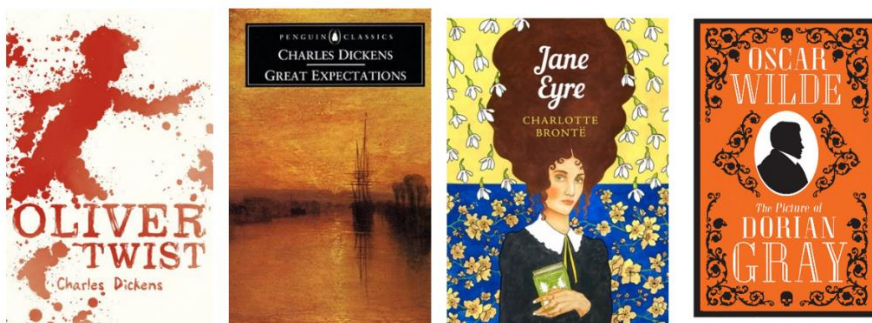
Year 8: Reporting the News- Autumn 2 SVCS English Department Recommends...



Year 9: Short Stories from Around the World- Autumn 2 SVCS English Department Recommends...



Year 10: A Christmas Carol- Autumn 2 SVCS English Department Recommends...





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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