



STOUR VALLEY

— COMMUNITY SCHOOL —

Parent/Carer Bulletin

Spring Term Dates

Spring Term starts

Wednesday 5 January 2022

Half Term

Monday 21 - Friday 25 February

Spring Term ends

Thursday 7 April

Non-pupil Day

Friday 8 April

Easter Break

Monday 11 April - Friday 22 April

Dates for your Diary Week Commencing 28 March 2022

- Monday 28 March - Year 9 Immigration Nation Day, all day event
- Wednesday 30 March - Year 9 Meningitis ACWY, Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio vaccination session with Vaccination UK in the Library, all day event
- Thursday 31 March - GCSE PE moderation day at County Upper (x14 students), all day event
- Friday 1 April - School Nurse drop-in for students in G6, lunchtime

Year 9 Immigration Nation Day

The whole of Year 9 will go off timetable next Monday in school.

It's a themed day called 'Immigration Day'. Students will take part in five workshops/talks throughout the day. They will explore the issues surrounding immigration and meet the following people:

Upcoming Events this March

Monday 28 March

Immigration Nation Day, Year 9 off timetable, all day event

Wednesday 30 March

Year 9 Meningitis ACWY, Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio vaccination session with Vaccination UK in the Library, 8:30am-3pm (*e-link consent/non-consent form distributed via email on 17/03/22*)

Thursday 31 March

GCSE PE moderation day at County Upper (*x14 students*), all day event

Marika Sigley from Ukraine talking about her family, culture, history with Russia and her hopes for the future. Marika has been a headteacher in England for a few years now.

Rosa Paulino Came to the UK, leaving her children to come (they joined her later) and without speaking English. She now works as a carer.

Joey Dixon Canadian musician who visited the Calais 'Jungle' and talks about her experiences there.

Sharon Parr Came to the UK aged 16 from Zimbabwe. She will explore assimilation, stereotypes, equality and identity.

There will also be a workshop called 'Immigration through film' where students explore the issues around immigration and alternative viewpoints.

All workshops will be in school and students will be allowed to come to school in non-uniform (normal non-uniform guidance applies). Normal transport and lunch arrangements apply. Students will follow the timing pattern of a normal school day ending as usual at 3pm. There is no cost to parents/carers.

We look forward to a great day. - *The History Team*

Green Matters

When we return after half-term we will begin our term with Earth Week. On Tuesday 26 April, Year 7 will be off timetable as they do a rotation of activities including making a piece of sustainable furniture and a session on bees delivered by local beekeepers. On Friday of that week, 29 April, we will be having our second Stour Valley Green Day. Students should wear green (or non-uniform) and bring in a suggested donation of £1 which will go towards our numerous green initiatives. There will be a cake sale, a sale of unique gifts and our very first Graffle (green raffle). Any donations warmly received, with bonus points for anything green (in colour) or anything green (environmentally friendly). During that week the students will also hear from experts at Save Soil (an initiative run by Conscious Planet) and will have the opportunity to make a pledge. Lessons will continue as normal but we hope the week will provide some interesting and inspiring moments. Any queries to: kchappell@stourvalley.org

Fundraising Total

On Friday last week we raised £260.94 for *Suffolk Mind* and £173.96 for *Comic Relief*, a total of £434.90 – well done and thank you to everyone for their participation in the non-uniform day!

Uniform Checks - Advanced Notice

In assembly this week students have been reminded of school's expectations in a number of areas. This is part of a general drive towards re-establishing 'pre-covid' routines within the school. As part of this

information, students were informed of a strategy we will be implementing after Easter with the intention of bringing standards of uniform back in line with what was expected before it became necessary for students to attend school in PE kit, and the inconsistency of uniform standard that this inevitably led to.

For your purposes at home you need to be aware that Year Leaders will be supporting tutors in conducting uniform checks immediately after we return from the Easter break. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that students return after Easter appropriately dressed for school, hence giving plenty of advanced notice of these measures. Any accessories/jewellery etc. that students should not be wearing will be confiscated at the initial uniform check and will be subject to the same rules as mobile phones when they are confiscated.

Staff will also be compiling lists of any students who are not in correct uniform. You will be contacted if your child's uniform is incorrect, and we would expect this to be rectified before Year Leaders return to check forms the following week. After this point we will be applying escalating sanctions for defiance of school rules for any students where uniform remains uncompliant.

Ultimately, students know if they are wearing the correct uniform or not. They know if their skirt doesn't remain at knee length; they know if they are wearing athletic footwear; black jeans or jogging bottoms etc. If these or any other uniform discrepancies apply, then students should not be surprised to be challenged on this after Easter.

Thank you for your ongoing support in upholding the high standards of the school.

School Transport

Students who travel to and from school by bus are reminded that they should not travel on public or school buses if they have tested positive for Covid-19, and whilst face coverings are no longer mandatory, students should always take care to keep themselves and other passengers safe by continuing to follow sensible precautions. As ever, any student who is otherwise unwell should not be travelling to school.

GCSE Examination 2022

Please be advised Written GCSE exams will start from 16 May to 27 June. Students need to be available to sit exams up to 29 June. It is advised not to book holidays/appointments during this time as exams cannot be rescheduled. The GCSE results day is Thursday 25 August 2022. Please view the following link for the timetable:

http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/files/letters/GCSE_Timetable_2022.pdf

PTA

Getting the community spirit back again after the pandemic, as the 80's night proved, is extremely important during these difficult times, therefore we are looking for volunteers to help set up a PTA group, and to run a few more events throughout the year.

If you are interested, could you please email Sarah Kemp, skemp@stourvalley.org in the first instance who will collate your name/contact details so we can look at doing this. We have recently had several parents who have expressed an interest, but we would like to welcome as many as possible.

Thank you.

Year 9 Options

The students had an assembly on Thursday 17 March where the online options process was explained to them. They should have received an activation email, please follow the below instructions:

http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/files/letters/Creating_a_student_account_to_access_Online_Services.pdf

The options choices must be approved by a parent/carer via the SIMS Parent app before they are submitted and the deadline for submission is **Monday 25 April by 3pm**. Each student will have an interview in school and the list of interview dates/times has been displayed in the Heartspace, in the hall and in the English corridor. Students should ensure they arrive for their appointment at the correct time. If you do have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me - keady@stourvalley.org - K Eady

Meningitis ACWY & Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio Vaccinations

The following email was distributed to Year 9 parents/carers on Thursday 17 March along with the relevant attachment:

We write to advise you that your child is due the Meningitis ACWY & Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio booster vaccinations in Year 9.

This is an in-school vaccination programme to be held on Wednesday 30 March.

Please find attached a letter from the immunisation team with a link to the portal/e-consent or e-non-consent, which requires your completion before midnight on Monday 28 March. The letter also

contains relevant information regarding this vaccination session.

*Should you have any enquiries, please contact **Vaccination***

UK Haverhill team on: 01440 782091.

Psychology Revision

Period 6 Year 11 Psychology revision sessions have recommended with all welcome! Wednesdays and Thursdays until Easter, then Wednesdays only after Easter.

Water Bottles for The School Day

As we look forward to the prospect of warmer weather in spring, we would like to request your support in ensuring your child has their water bottle for school each day. They can refill at our water stations during break/lunch and lesson changeover - thank you.

Fundraising Event for Ukraine



Friday 1 April, 6 pm at Clare Parish Church

All donations to the
DEC Ukraine appeal



STARRING PERFORMERS FROM
CLARE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
STOKE COLLEGE
STOUR VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
AND OTHER LOCAL SCHOOLS

Free entry and refreshments
Contact: ukraine@claremusic.org

Important Letters & Notices

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/07/how-we-are-helping-students-prepare-for-exams-this-summer-advance-information/> - Year 11 GCSE Exams Education Hub post

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/news/item/all-stars-cricket> - *All Stars Cricket at Cavendish Cricket Club*

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/news/item/dynamos-cricket> - *Dynamos Cricket at Cavendish Cricket Club*

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/news/item/free-movie-trailer-music-video-workshop> - *Sudbury West Suffolk College, free movie trailer & music video workshop for students 9-16 yrs*

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/news/item/modest-management> - *Open auditions for singers 15-19yrs with Model Management*

<http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/news/item/creative-arts-club> - *Creative Arts Clubs at SVCS*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/letter-to-students> - *Letter written by Jo Saxton Ofqual's Chief Regulator regarding GCSE Examinations 2022*

safe@stourvalley.org - *Stour Valley Community School Safeguarding email address*

[http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/Call to a member function getElements on null/sims parent app guide.pdf](http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/Call%20to%20a%20member%20function%20getElements%20on%20null/sims%20parent%20app%20guide.pdf) - *SIMS Parent App Guide*



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