



# 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

### **Dates for your Diary Week Commencing 4 April 2022**

- Thursday 7 April - Year 8 Parents/Carers' Evening, 5-7pm
- Thursday 7 April - Last full school day before Easter for students
- Friday 8 April - Non-pupil day

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### **Green Matters**

When we return after Easter, we will begin the summer term with Earth Week. Our first ever 'Climate Action Day' on Tuesday 26 April will provide a rotation of activities for Year 7 including designing an outdoor area and learning about bee-keeping. On Friday of that week, 29 April, we will be

### **Easter Break**

Monday 11 April - Friday 22 April

### **Upcoming Events this April**

#### **Thursday 7 April**

Year 8 Parents/Carers' Evening, 5-7pm

#### **Thursday 7 April**

Last full school day before Easter for students

#### **Friday 8 April**

Non-pupil Day

#### **Monday 25 April**

Students return from the Easter break

#### **Monday 25 April**

Earth Week at SVCS

#### **Tuesday 26 April**

Year 7 Climate Action Day, all day event

#### **Friday 29 April**

Wear Green Day (non-uniform event)

#### **Friday 29 April**

School Nurse Drop-in Service in G6 (Textiles room), lunchtime

having our annual **Green Day**. Students should wear green (or non-uniform) and bring in £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). If you would like to make a donation to the Graffle, we would be particularly delighted to receive anything green (in colour) or anything green (environmentally friendly). During that week the whole student body will have an online assembly from experts at Save Soil (an initiative run by Conscious Planet). Lessons will continue as normal but we hope the week will provide some interesting and inspiring moments. Any queries to [kchappell@stourvalley.org](mailto:kchappell@stourvalley.org)

### **Absence Reporting**

We would like to kindly remind parents and carers that any student absences should be reported to the school by 8am on each day of absence via the absence line **01787 326941** or emailed to [studentabsence@stourvalley.org](mailto:studentabsence@stourvalley.org)

### **Uniform Checks - Advanced Notice**

In assembly last week students were reminded of the 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.

## **Year 9 Immigration Nation Day**

Staff and students at Stour Valley would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Marika Sigley, Alison Holmes, Joey Dixon and Sharon Parr for sharing their own very personal stories from Ukraine, Calais, Kosovo and Zimbabwe with Year 9 as part of their Immigration Nation Day. They gave their time so generously. Thank you!



## **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/Year\\_11\\_GCSE\\_Examination\\_Timetable\\_2022.pdf](http://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/files/letters/Year_11_GCSE_Examination_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](mailto: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.

## Medical Notice

As we have noted an increase of students visiting the medical area for assistance with headache relief, we kindly request your support in the following:

- Students should have a water bottle each school day (they can refill at the water stations during break/lunch and lesson changeovers).
- For occasions when your child presents cold symptoms/headaches before school, please provide them with their required medication (Paracetamol/Ibuprofen) to supply the front office.

This will prevent the full depletion of our emergency paracetamol stock.

Thank you for your support.

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## 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](mailto: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_to_a_member_function_getElements_on_null/sims_parent_app_guide.pdf) - SIMS Parent App Guide



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