

July 2019, Issue 82

Newsletter

A Message from the Headteacher

There has been lots to celebrate throughout this year and this term has been no different. There have been many highlights but a few standouts. Firstly, our Summer Showcase. I have attended many performances over the last 12 years and have to say that this was the best by far. The quality of the performers was sublime. The music was completely eclectic and ranged from Deep Purple to Prokofiev!! The level of skill on show was so impressive and included students from Year 7 – 10. What it showed, without question, is that we have a group of supremely talented musicians ably supported by our music department.

Another standout was our Year 7 – 10 Awards Evening. This evening gives us the opportunity to celebrate students in every subject for both attainment and for progress. It was a lovely evening and such a joy to applaud a group of students who by dint of hard work are achieving amazing things. The Awards Evening was followed by our Sports Presentation Evening. This event has been running for over 5 years and is always packed to the rafters with students and parents celebrating the many sporting successes of our students.

On 3rd and 4th July we welcomed our largest new intake to the school. Over 275 students will be joining us as the process of moving from 8 to 9 forms of entry continues. The students conducted themselves superbly. There were a range of tests that needed to be completed but they took these in their stride. They also had the opportunity to sample some key lessons. I know the staff and I am looking forward to welcoming them to the school in September.

As ever at this time of year we are saying goodbye to some staff. One of the staff we are saying farewell to is Mr Bolton. He has taught at Severn Vale School for a remarkable 33 years. In that time he has made a very significant contribution to life at Severn Vale in a variety of guises. Many students have benefited from his international work and his work promoting outdoor education. We of course wish him well in his retirement.

Next year sees a number of changes in key elements of our work. I am very much looking forward to the implementation of these changes and the positive impact I believe they will have on our students. One key change relates to uniform expectations. Details of these have been sent to parents and are included in this newsletter. Another key change is our policy on mobile phones. Again, I have included FAQs regarding mobile phones in this newsletter. I thank you in advance for your support with these.

All that is left for me to do is thank you for your ongoing support and to wish you and your family a fabulous summer break. We very much look forward to welcoming the students back in September.

Richard Johnson
Headteacher

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 2 nd September 2019	Inset for staff (school closed to students)
Tuesday 3 rd September 2019	Term begins for Years 7 and 11
Wednesday 4 th September 2019	Term begins for Years 8, 9 and 10
Tuesday 17 th September 2019	School photographs for Year 7 and 10
Thursday 19 th September 2019	HPV Injections (Year 9 girls)
Thursday 19 th September 2019	Open Evening 6.00 – 8.00pm
Tuesday 24 th September 2019	Walkround 1
Monday 30 th September 2019	Year 11 Gradecards Home
Tuesday 1 st October 2019	Ask the Professional (Year 11)
Wednesday 2 nd October 2019	NEA Food Exam p.1 + 2
Wednesday 2 nd October 2019	Trip to National Apprenticeship Show p.3.5 (Year 11)
Thursday 3 rd October 2019	Walkround 2
Thursday 3 rd October 2019	Supporting Your Child Through KS4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 10 6.00-7.00pm • Year 11 7.15-8.15pm
Thursday 3 rd October 2019	Year 11 Hockey/Netball Tour to Belfast departs at lunchtime
Friday 4 th October 2019	NEA Food Exam p.3 + 4
Monday 7 th October 2019	Cheltenham Literature Festival Trips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 (30) p.1-3 • Year 8 (50) p.3-4
Tuesday 8 th October 2019	Walkround 3
Tuesday 8 th October 2019	Shakespeare Schools Festival Workshop Day
Wednesday 9 th October 2019	NEA Food Exam p.3+4
Wednesday 9 th October 2019	Cheltenham Literature Festival Trips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 8/9 (15) p.1-3 • Year 9 (10) p.1-5
Thursday 10 th October 2019	World Mental Health Day
Thursday 10 th October 2019	Year 10 Politics Trip to the Houses of Parliament
Friday 11 th October 2019	NEA Food Exam p.1 + 2
Friday 11 th October 2019	Cheltenham Literature Festival Trips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 (20) p.1-3 • Year 8/9 (10) p.2-4 • Year 10/11 (20) p.1-3
Tuesday 15 th October 2019	Geography Trip to Blackpool Brook

Wednesday 16th October 2019

World Food Day – Food Bank Donations

Friday 18th October 2019

NEA Food Exam p.3+4

Friday 18th October 2019

End of Term 1

Monday 21st – Thursday 24th October 2019

Rome Trip

UNIFORM SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 2019

We want our students to be the smartest in the city and so want to remind you of our uniform expectations. These will be enforced from the first day back. We would like to remind parents that all facial piercings will need to be removed and that earrings are now only permitted in the lobe. Any unnatural hair dye must not be present in September. Students who wear skirts in year 7 to 10 will have to wear the SVS skirt. Any school trousers must meet the shoe so cropped trousers are not allowed. If students are not in the correct uniform and we cannot rectify the issue then they will spend the day in referral.

Students are to wear:

- A school blazer and school tie
- A plain white work-style shirt, long or short sleeved
- Either tailored black trousers or the school skirt. Trousers should meet shoes.
- Plain black shoes. Socks – plain black or plain black tights
- A V-necked jumper, to be worn under the blazer, is available from our school uniform supplier – this is optional
- An outside waterproof coat can be worn to and from school and during break and lunchtime during cold/wet weather (No hoodies, denim or leather jackets).

Jewellery – The only jewellery which is acceptable is a wrist watch and one pair of small plain gold or silver stud earrings worn in the earlobes. Any other form of jewellery is not allowed. Severn Vale School does not allow facial piercings of any kind, including transparent piercing retainers. Please note that students who have piercings during the Summer will be expected to remove them when coming back in September.

Hair – No extreme hairstyle or dyed hair of an unnatural colour is allowed. The school's decision on what is extreme is final. This includes tramlines, Mohican or skinhead-type styles. Male and female students with long hair must tie it back for PE, Technology and Science lessons.

Nails – Nail polish and false nails are not permitted.

Make-Up – Make-up that is deemed excessive is not allowed at school. This includes: coloured lipstick, mascara, eye shadow, brow liner and false eyelashes.

Thank you in advance for your support.

NO MOBILE PHONES TO BE USED, SEEN OR HEARD – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does this change in approach mean in practice?

- From 1st September 2019, students can bring a mobile phone into school, but must switch it off and store it in their bag (not their pocket) when entering the school site in the morning
- Headphones, earphones, smart watches and other similar electronic devices with internet connectivity must also be removed and stored in a school bag (not in their pocket)
- Mobile phones and the other devices listed above must then remain switched off and out of sight at all times on the school site. This includes break and lunchtime

What will happen if a student's mobile phone is used, seen or heard?

- The device will be confiscated and kept securely
- Parents/Carers will be contacted if a device has been confiscated
- On the first confiscation, students can collect the device from 3.10pm on the day on which it was confiscated from the admin office. Parents will be informed regarding all confiscations
- For the second and subsequent confiscations the device will need to be collected by parents/carers from the main reception
- Any defiance towards staff when a phone is confiscated will lead to serious consequences, for example time in isolation or a fixed term exclusion

What if my child needs to contact me during the day?

- Students should go to the relevant key stage office who will be able to assist them by telephoning you

What if I need to contact my child?

- Please telephone reception, 01452 720458, who will be able to pass any urgent messages on to your child

What about after school clubs and activities?

- If your child attends an after-school club or activity they will be allowed to use their phone after school to contact you to arrange to be picked up

What about trips and fixtures?

- We recognise that being able to contact parents regarding return times is essential, and that many parents will want to retain regular contact with their child on residential visits. Students will normally be free to use their mobile phone on all trips and fixtures, any changes to this will be exceptional and at the trip leader's discretion

What about using mobile phones for learning in lessons?

- We believe that mobile phones are too easily used as a distraction from learning
- The vast majority of activities that teachers have instructed students to use phones for can easily be achieved in other ways; therefore phones are also not to be used, seen or heard in lessons
- In the exceptional event that the use of a mobile phone is considered to be necessary to support learning in a particular lesson, staff will give students prior notice

SAFEGUARDING

Pupils surviving on two hours' sleep due to 'phone addiction'



Nine in 10 pupils check phones during the night, while 70 per cent do so in lessons, research finds

“Exhausted” schoolchildren are surviving on just two hours of sleep because of their mobile phone addiction, according to new research. The study by Leeds Beckett University examined the mobile phone use of 594 students aged 11-18 across the country, and found that most regularly check their phones during family meals, while doing homework and during school lessons. A total of 96 per cent said they check their phones every two minutes, while 85 per cent spend between four and six hours a day online. Meanwhile, two-thirds said they are getting between two and four hours of sleep a night because of their “addiction” to mobile phones.

Professor Jonathan Glazzard, of the university’s Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools, said adolescents were “desperate to network” and keep up to date with their online peers. He said: “This results in broken sleep and tiredness during the school day. “Adolescents need approximately eight-to-10 hours' sleep, but our research demonstrates that some get as little as two hours of sleep. “These students attend school in a state of exhaustion. They are too tired to concentrate, and it affects their learning and behaviour. “Disengagement in lessons results in them falling behind in their schoolwork and they then develop other problems, such as low confidence and low self-worth.”

The survey was distributed nationally to senior leaders in schools and colleges that work in partnership with the university’s teacher-training programme. It found that so-called “technoference” increased with age, with older students admitting that they are more likely to be distracted by their devices, yet there was no significant differences by gender. One 13-year-old said: “If I am not online with my friends, I worry that they will not want to be my friend anymore. They want me to ‘like’ their posts and if I am not online I might forget to do this.”

Prof Glazzard said parents could play “a critical role” in supporting young people to develop positive habits by setting boundaries. He said: “Examples of boundaries might include restricting access to technology in bedrooms and at mealtimes. “Also, parents need to be good role models by ensuring that they do not allow technology to interrupt conversations and other daily experiences.”

Teachers have also been surveyed with one reporting that pupils were known to have walked out of lessons to take calls from their parents. Researcher Samuel Stones, a senior teacher at Norton College in North Yorkshire, said: “The brain is malleable. It is responsive to environmental influences, and lack of exposure to language can impact on phonological and phonemic awareness. Both of these skills play a critical role in reading development.”

The pupil survey includes the following findings:

- 92 per cent regularly check their phones during the night.
- 67 per cent get between 2 and 4 hours' sleep due to checking their phones.
- 85 per cent regularly check their phones during family meals.
- 97 per cent regularly check their phones while doing their homework.
- 70 per cent discretely check their phones during lesson time.

BOOK CLUB

We have just enjoyed our last Book Club meeting of the year and, over drinks and snacks, discussed some more brilliant novels.

- Year 7 read *The Boy Who Flew*, a murder mystery involving a flying machine!
- Year 8 read and discussed *A Wrinkle in Time*, a Sci-Fi classic about a quest to find a missing parent who is lost in time.
- Year 9 read *Concentr8*, a thought provoking novel about dependency upon medication for ADHD and the potential consequences.
- Year 10 read *The Lies We Tell Ourselves*, an important novel about the experiences of African-American students integrating into a white school after educational segregation was lifted.
- Year 11 were given *The Help* to read over their long summer holiday, a novel about the experiences of African-American maids in Mississippi during the 1960s.

We are very much looking forward to Book Club next year and if you would like your child to be involved then please email ljames@severnvaletschool.com

GOVERNING BODY

As we reflect on the progress of the school at the end of the academic year I value the opportunity to explain another role of our Children, Families and Community (CFC) committee in more detail. Every term the CFC committee receives a detailed breakdown of the attendance figures for the school, these figures are scrutinised at each meeting and reported to the full Governing Body.

Following a review of procedures at the end of the previous academic year, the hard work of staff, students and parents it is pleasing to see that overall attendance is starting to show signs of improvement, though we await the final overall percentage figure which will be reported to Governors at the start of the next academic year. We have a Governor with specific responsibility for monitoring attendance at the school who visits at least twice a year. During the monitoring visits she ensures procedures laid out in the Attendance Policy are being followed and reviews the impact of interventions that are in place on the attendance of students in school.

Governors are very much aware that the school regularly reminds parents/carers of the impact of good attendance on the overall academic progress a student makes and fully support them in this message. Governors want all students who attend Severn Vale School to have the best education possible to enable them to achieve the best they can. In order to do this we need the students to be in school all the time so they have access to the skilled teaching and learning that is taking place, they have access to support to help them when necessary and they can enrich their lives through the many extra activities available to them. A new academic year is always a good time to develop good routines to ensure excellent attendance and progress, we look forward to seeing even better attendance figures in 2019-2020.

Term 6 always brings Governors the opportunity to attend the many different celebrations that take place be it the Summer Musical Performance, the Awards Evening, the Sports Presentation Evening or the exhibition of Art work. It is a privilege on these occasions to see the variety of skills and talents that the students demonstrate following their hard work and determination to be the best they can be.

Finally all it leaves me to is thank you as parents/carers and your children for your support and hard work this year. I hope you all enjoy a restful and relaxing holiday and look forward to continuing our role as Governors in September 2019.

Jane Ireland
Chair of Governors

MEMBERS

Mrs J Ireland
(*Chair of Governors*)

PARENT GOVERNORS

Dr S Cockin
(Joint Vice Chair)
Mr R Rankin
Mrs V Seymour
Mrs L Adams
Rev P Millward

ORDINARY GOVERNORS

Mrs S Hawkins
Mr R Wallace
Mr A Ayland
Mr I Pogue
(Joint Vice Chair)
Professor N Wynn
Mr S Wilson

LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

Mrs L Berry

STAFF GOVERNORS

Mr R Johnson
(*Headteacher*)
Mrs J Williamson
Mrs J McDonnell
Ms Bagworth

To contact the Chair of Governors, please telephone the Clerk to Governors, Mrs Lyn Woodrow at the school, on 01452 720458 ext 256

ABSENCE

I would like to start by thanking the many parents who make sure their children attend Severn Vale School regularly. Attendance and punctuality is an aspect of school life that we strive to continually improve and I am pleased to report that Severn Vale's overall attendance figure is up on the previous year. We do however still have room for improvement which is why in 2019/2020 there will be a continuing strong emphasis on attendance from all staff at Severn Vale School.

Please remember that parental illness, going shopping, visiting family, truancy, not wanting to go to school, alleged bullying (speak to school immediately to resolve the issue) are not acceptable reasons to be absent. All of these will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

Family emergencies need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Being at school with support from staff and peers can provide children with stability. The routine of school offers a safe and familiar background during times of uncertainty.

It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their children receive appropriate education. Failing to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence. If your child's level of absence is of serious concern, the school will offer advice and support to improve attendance. After this, any unauthorised absence may result in the School and the Local Authority taking legal action.

Legal action that may be taken includes:

- **Issuing penalty notices for holiday absence:** Each parent receives a penalty notice for each child who has unauthorised absence. The penalty is £60 or £120 depending on how soon payment is made. So, if there are two parents and two children the total penalties could be up to £480. Failure to pay may result in prosecution.
- **Taking parents to court for persistent unauthorised absence:** Education Act 1996 Section 444(1A) - court can fine each parent up to £2,500 per child, order payment of the prosecution costs, impose a Parenting Order and/or sentence you to a period of imprisonment of up to 3 months.

Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life. So once again, I would like to thank those parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and are therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.

I wish our students a restful summer holidays and look forward to an even greater level of attendance by our pupils in 2019/20.

Virginia Martin
Attendance Improvement Manager

CHELTHENHAM SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2019

On the 4th and 5th of June, students from Year 7, 8 and 9 visited Cheltenham Science Festival. They took part in interactive workshops and were wowed by exciting shows.

During their first visit, Year 9 learned about the battle between our own cells and viruses which make us poorly and then produced a stunning piece of art work showing this battle. The inspiration for this was the very famous Bayeux Tapestry which depicts the Norman Conquest of England and the Battle of Hastings.



The “tapestry” produced by Year 9 is now hanging proudly in our Science Department.



Year 8 spent their first visit learning more about the Periodic Table in celebration of its 150th birthday. They found out how the Periodic Table was developed and why it is organised as it is. The presenter demonstrated some of the very different properties that elements can have and the show ended with an interactive quiz.



On their second visit, Year 8 took part in a workshop all about light and its use as a communication tool. From fire beacons to fibre optics, students were taken on a journey into how light may be used future. They saw a demonstration of Li-Fi, a potential replacement for Wi-Fi in the future and took part in an activity modelling the work of a photon detector. A final demonstration showed how using light could improve the security of secret communications in the future.

Year 9 then watched a show about the use of catalysts in speeding up chemical reactions and Year 7 enjoyed learning about the brain and important cells called neurones. The students looked at some incredible optical illusions and linked them to the role of nerve cells. Students got up on stage and modelled neurones and the delivery of information over a synapse. They also passed electric currents from one person to another, making the volunteer's arm move involuntarily.

The students were impeccably behaved and an absolute credit to the school and the department!

Mrs Madrick

Subject Leader for Science

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

G15 Celebration of Success

Students across all years were involved in the G15 Celebration of Success, which is a huge showcase event at Gloucester Cathedral which involves performances from all 15 Secondary Schools (including Milestones, GFAPS, and Gloucestershire College) as well as a massed performance premier of a choral piece written by Ben O'Sullivan specifically for the event.

The performance from Severn Vale involved members of the School Choir, School Band, and Brass Group in a performance of 'Signed, Sealed, Delivered', by Stevie Wonder, and was a fantastic experience for all involved with our students being a credit to themselves and the school.



NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Summer Showcase

Our Summer Concert had the theme of 'The Best of SVS 2019' and we were certainly entertained by an overwhelmingly high standard of performances by soloists, duets, bands, and ensembles made up of students across the school year groups. The standard rises each year which testament to the hard work of and musical commitment of those students involved. One point of particular note was the diversity of performances and genres chosen by the students, from 21 Pilots to Beethoven and Debussy to Dire Straits.



Instrumental Lessons

As a reminder to parents and carers that you need to sign up for instrumental lessons by contacting our instrumental teachers directly. You can do this by clicking on the instrumental teacher's name on this page on the school website:

<http://www.severnvaeschool.com/page/?title=Music+Tuition&pid=182>

Our teachers have been recruited to Severn Vale School and are highly experienced and regarded educators in their instruments. We offer lessons in brass instruments, guitar & uke, bass guitar, drum kit, piano, and singing. We can signpost students to woodwind and string instrument teachers if there is interest.

THIRD YEAR OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Follow us on Twitter @SVSDofE for regular updates.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 20 students who have achieved their Bronze award (Y9, Y10, Y11) and the 8 students who have achieved their Silver (Y10). This is a fantastic achievement and you should all be very proud. Students received their certificates and badges, which can be worn on their blazers, at the Sports Presentation Evening on the 12th July. Those who were unable to attend will still have their awards presented, and will receive them in their end of year praise assembly.



Bronze achievers:

Year 9: Alex D, Abby D, Faye C, Ryan H, Jessica I, Adam I, Holly E, Summer L, Olivia L, Bradley M, Bronwyn W, Ella M, Megan V and Jessica P

Year 10: Gamsiga G, Harry C, Katie L

Year 11: Cameron G, Samuel T and Lara C

Year 10 Silver achievers:

Lewis B, Kate D, Jasmine F, Lewis O, Izzy V, Isobel G, Elliott P and Katie I.

Heading forward to September, it is fabulous to see 6 of the Bronze award holders taking on the next challenge and choosing to progress onto the Silver award in year 10. As well as having 44 new participants signed up to begin their bronze. Don't forget if you haven't quite achieved your award to keep at it!

As you are aware Miss Gay will be leaving SVS at the end of term 6 to take on new challenges at a different school. Your new DofE point of contact will be Mr Higgs via dhiggs@severnvaeschool.com.

A few words from Miss Gay:

I feel very passionate about the value of the DofE award, and was extremely pleased to be able to be involved in the inception of the award here at SVS in 2016. Three years on and the award has seen many students thrive and achieve both bronze and silver, with one year 11 (a 2019 leaver) taking on the ultimate challenge of Gold at his post 16 placement. It has been a pleasure supporting students through their award and the expeditions have been an absolute highlight, with a wide variety of memories including the 2017-18 Silvers reactions to a composting toilet. I am sure the award will continue to grow at SVS and become even more embedded in the life of the school, it does fit so well with the school core values. I wish all the current and new participants all the best, just remember, to be organised and proactive. You will gain so much and experience new things that will help shape who you are, but it is up to you to work for it. Overall enjoy it! Miss Gay

Heading into the Summer Holidays:

Thank you to all the parents who attend the information evening, please use the summer to discuss and complete the programme planner with your child. That should be handed in by **Friday 6th September 2019**. This will allow staff to check chosen activities are in the correct sections and spot any areas where students are not sure of what they can or wish to do, allowing us to have ideas and solutions in place for the eDofE set-up meeting.

Remember school clubs, and other clubs outside of school can count. However, nothing can count before the 4th of September 2019. If they wish to try something new, outside of school there may be additional costs, inside school there are lots of clubs at lunch and afterschool. They could join the new litter picking (community champions) club, to promote awareness and look after the local area (volunteering). A DofE list of activities and their sections can be found here:

https://www.dofe.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/programme_ideas_-_COMPLETE_brief.pdf

Current 2018-19 DofE Cohort

If your child has yet to complete their Bronze award. Don't worry, participants have until their 25th Birthday to take part. This means that although they have not yet achieved their bronze award, your child can continue with their personalised programme, if they chose, and aim to complete their bronze award in the new academic year. Students will still have support from staff, and if they no longer wish to take part we should have been informed by Friday 19th July 2019. If in September you receive communications regarding DofE and your child no longer wishes to take part please contact Mr Higgs via dhiggs@severnvaleschool.com as you will be removed for the contact list and your child's eDofE account will be archived.

We will also be holding an afterschool session on **September 24th**, where anyone requiring support with eDofE or would like advice on moving forward can attend.

New 2019-20 DofE Cohort

Over the summer, aim to complete the programme planner. Contact details are important. The planners along with support on filling them in were handed out at the parent's information evening on Tuesday 16th July. If you were unable to attend, then these packs were posted home. This is what your child plans to do for each activity, where it will take place, what they wish to achieve over the time period (SMART goal) and contact details of who is going to be their assessor.

The DofE award does require commitment from students, with this in mind we would like to bring your attention to some important dates:

- **Friday 6th September 2019**- Students need to hand in their programme planner. This allows staff to check chosen activities are in the correct sections and spot any areas where students are not sure of what they can or wish to do, allowing us to have ideas and solutions in place for the set-up meeting.
- **Tuesday 24th September** (TBC in September) - DofE induction session. Meeting for students ONLY in IT1 and IT2, 3:15- 4:30. This is where students will receive their welcome packs and will be given support to activate and fill in their eDofE accounts. Setting up their log in names, passwords and setting their chosen tasks and time frames for their personal programme (based on the programme planner already

handed in on the 6th September). They will also be informed of who their group leader is, should they have any questions or require support at any time.

Please remember that the award comprises of a personal programme of activities which the students choose. There are a wide range of activities and advice for which activities fall in to which section can be found by following the link below. Please do bear in mind some volunteering organisation do have a minimum age requirement. https://www.dofe.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/programme_ideas_-_COMPLETE_brief.pdf

It is also good to remember a lot of students are already doing activities that can count for DofE, e.g. playing sport for a local club, learning a musical instrument, being a member of scouts etc.

BRONZE		
Volunteering 3 months	<i>PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.</i>	
Physical 3 months		
Skills 3 months		
Expedition 2 days 1 night		
		

SILVER		
Volunteering 6 months	<i>Plus an extra 6 months in the Volunteering, or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections if you haven't got Bronze</i>	
Physical	one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months	
Skills		
Expedition 3 days 2 nights		
		

The expedition section of the award must include training, a qualifying expedition and be self-sufficient. Students must attend all components in order to complete this section. Important dates for your diaries are:

- **Wednesday 29th January 2020** - Parents Evening (expedition) - Parent's information evening starting at 18:00 in the main hall. This is an evening where Ocean Rock (the company running our expedition), will answer any questions and show you the kit required. Please do not decide to purchase any new kit until after this date, as all requirements will be shared with you on this evening and some kit (such as tents and cookers) will be provided. We're are also hoping that Go Outdoors will be able to host a stand to answer any questions (remember DofE participants get 15% discount)
- **Saturday 1st February** - Training Day - Expedition training day at Severn Vale School 10:00-15:00
- **Saturday 28th – Sunday 29th March** – Training expedition, location TBC nearer the time.
- **Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th June** - **Qualifying** expedition, location TBC nearer the time.

Both expeditions will meet at SVS at 08:00 on the Saturday morning. Estimated time of return on the Sunday will be between 14:00-16:00, depending on student pace and progress. Update will be provided on the day itself via @SVSDofE (this can be seen at the bottom of the school website). Please ensure you keep the school gates clear to allow the bus access to the school car park.

DISTRICT ATHLETICS TOURNAMENT

On Friday June 28th we ventured to Prince of Wales Stadium to compete in our annual District Athletics tournament. All pupils were on time looking very smart in their full PE kit and sun was shining giving all the signs to a great day! We arrived at POW early and got a good base in the stadium ready to watch the day unfold.

All the students performed very well, with students getting 1st places in the 1500m (Taro Weston), 100m (Kaitlin Hardwick), 800m (Jasmine Fern), Shot Putt (RJ) and High Jump (Dylan Bhatti) across the different year groups. It was fantastic to see the students working hard for each other and they really understood that every event counts to our final podium position. Overall we finished in 3rd place out of the 12 schools in Gloucester which is our best result yet!

We also had a number of school records broken on the day, they came in 100m (Caitlin Hardwick), 300m (RJ), 800m Jasmine Fern and Taro Weston), 4 x 100m (Shamar Thomas, Kyron Mitchel, Olly Limbrick and Dylan Bhatti as well as Mia Crick, Lydia Ashby-Parsons, Chanelle Wood and Zunairah Cross) and Discus (Aimee Wood).

I am very proud of all the students that took part and extremely grateful of all the hard work the PE department has put in in the lead up to the event. We are looking forward to next year already and hope to improve on our final overall position!

Mr Rogers

Head of PE



SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENING AWARDS

Individual and Team Sports Winners 2018-2019

			
Athletics Cup (Girls) Kaitlin Hardwick	Athletics Cup (Boys) Taro Weston	Badminton Cup Lewis O'Brien	Cheerleading Cup Lily Hayward
			
Football Cup (Girls) Ellie Parrott	Football Cup (Boys) George Norman	Hockey Cup Natalie Hayward	Netball Cup Brooke Giles
			
Rounders Cup Alyssa Norcross	Rugby Cup Flynn Clark	Table Tennis Cup Ryan Hunt	Official of the Year Joel Thornton
			
Person of Steel Josh Vallis-Ridler	Golden Boot Tori Parker (8 Goals) George Norman (8 Goals)	Manager of the Year Mr Smart	



Girls' Team of the Year

Cheerleading Team
Co-Captains: Evie Galling and Ciara Gough



Boys' Team of the Year

Year 10 Football Team
Captain: Joshua Stevens



**THE SEVERN VALE SCHOOL FAIR PLAY
AWARD**

This award is given to two lower school students who have displayed the correct, positive and fair attitude towards sport and who are excellent role models to their peers.

Charlotte Bodenham and James Reynolds



**THE MARTIN SHIPWAY MEMORIAL
TROPHY**

The most prestigious sports award given at Severn Vale School. This is awarded to two upper school students in recognition of their highest commitment, individual sporting excellence and personal achievement within the Severn Vale P.E Department, over the last four years.

Highly Commended: Natalie Hayward and Elliot Jones
Winners: Katie Irvine and Duarte Fialho

Well done to all those people who participated in extra-curricular PE clubs, were nominated for awards and won awards.

Thank you for all your hard work in making this year a very successful year.

Severn Vale School PE Department

Sports Day Winners	
<p>7W Captains: Keela Sullivan and Rudi Kyffin</p>	
<p>8O Captains: Beth Lamb and Josh Haines</p>	
<p>9W Captains: Ella Mansfield and Oliver Curtis</p>	

ADULT EDUCATION



Functional Skills English & Maths at Severn Vale School

Want to improve your job prospects, study further, or boost your own confidence to help the kids with their homework?

Join a free Functional Skills English or Maths class at Severn Vale School, and gain a qualification.

Enrolment and information evening:

4th September – returning learners

11th September – new learners

Classes run term time only

Course runs every Wednesday

18th Sep to 12th Feb

6.30pm – 8.30pm

For more information or to book onto an assessment session:

0800 542 1655

learn@gloucestershire.gov.uk

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/aeig

You must book onto an information and assessment session if you wish to attend the course.

900 2699 519



JUNIOR SNOOKER HOLIDAY CLUB



147 CLUB **EPSB**
ENGLISH PARTNERSHIP FOR SNOOKER AND BILLIARDS

WANT TO TRY SNOOKER OR BILLIARDS?

JOIN OUR JUNIOR SNOOKER HOLIDAY CLUB THIS SUMMER!

SIX SESSIONS for new players
AGED 10-16 during the summer holidays
ONLY £1 per session
Lots of fun, and loads of prizes!

Where: South West Snooker Academy
Mount Court, Edison Close, Gloucester, GL2 2FN

When: Tues 6, 13, 20 Aug, 10.30am – 11.30am
Thurs 8, 15, 22 Aug, 12 noon – 1pm

To book your place
Call: 01452 223 214
Email: andrew.norman@tcv-venue.co.uk

LED BY A WPBSA WORLD SNOOKER COACH AND PART OF A NATIONAL PROGRAMME
WWW.EPSB.CO.UK

SPORT ENGLAND **sport structures**

#CUE4ALL
#JUNIORSNOOKER

POSITIVE WELL-BEING

The summer holiday provides our students and your children with a great opportunity to rest, recharge the batteries and prepare for the new school year.

All students will be going into a new school year and our Year 9 students will be moving into Key Stage 4.

Transition and change is both exciting and challenging.

Have a look at the resources shared by Young Minds which may help you and your child manage these changes and make a positive start in September.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/take20/top-tips-for-you-and-your-child/>



[The #Take20 Parent's Hub: Top Tips for You and Your Child](https://youngminds.org.uk/take20/top-tips-for-you-and-your-child/)

youngminds.org.uk

Top Tips for You and Your Child Our Parent Services team give their top tips for how you can support your child during a time of change or difficulty.