

December 17th 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to start by thanking you for your support of the school during what has been another difficult term. We have done our best to keep the school operating normally and will continue to do so next term, but who knows what the future might bring. For that reason, we have reminded all students how to access TEAMS and remote learning and we are updating our website with additional help videos for anyone who needs them. I hope we don't have to use remote learning again but we are set up ready to go with live lessons delivered by teachers in the event that the Government changes the guidance at the last minute as it did last January.

[Remote Learning Access](#)

If you are struggling to provide a suitable computer or laptop for your son or daughter we have a number of laptops available to loan out to students (in the first instance those students who are Pupil Premium or claim Free School Meals will have priority). Please contact your son or daughter's Head of Year for more information.

[January return to school](#)

Last week I sent out details of the return to school in January and Mrs Ashmore followed that up with a detailed letter on Monday setting out the testing arrangements. Both can be found on our Website in the Documents section or by clicking the link below.

[Letters-home](#)

[Student support](#)

As I have previously mentioned we have been working on raising student awareness of major issues such as Peer on Peer abuse, prejudicial and discriminatory behaviour and British values this term and will continue to develop students' understanding of these concepts as the year progresses. We are increasing the number and diversity of our student voice groups to ensure we gather as many points of view from as broad a range of students as we can. The Student Anti Bullying Group will be re launched in the spring term and students given training to assist other students who may be experiencing difficulties to get appropriate help from adults in the school.

Wey Valley Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Rob Russell, BEd (Hons), Principal

www.veyvalley-academy.co.uk

E office@veyvalley-academy.co.uk

T 01305 817000

Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5AN

Vaccination

All students aged 12 and over are encouraged to take up the offer of the covid vaccine. Vaccines remain our best defence against COVID-19. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on. This is essential if we are to keep the school open.

To book a vaccination, please visit:

Book or manage a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination – NHS (www.nhs.uk).

You may also wish to email dhc.covid1215appointments@nhs.net to make an appointment at a local clinic. As I have explained before, more local venues will be coming on-stream soon. Thank you for bearing with the NHS Team who are dealing with a huge challenge currently.

Use Class Charts to Record LFD Test Results

We will be using Class Charts to allow you to enter your child's lateral flow device test results from the start of next term. This is a much simpler way for you to quickly record the result. You should have received a letter about this yesterday.

Staff Leaving

At the end of this term the following staff will be leaving Wey Valley, we wish them all the very best for the future..

Pam Govier is retiring after spending 37 Years teaching at Wey Valley! We will be organising an official celebration later in the Year when we are able to invite more people as I am sure there are many people in the community who would like to wish her a wonderful retirement! She hasn't fully escaped as we have been able to persuade her to do one day a week helping to support and train some of our younger teachers who are new to the profession.

A massive thanks to Pam for all her many years of superb service to the school and to children across Weymouth and Portland through her charitable works.

Chris Newman is retiring after 3 years at Wey Valley and a long and distinguished service working in other local secondary schools.

Also leaving are:

Jenny Client (Design and Technology), **Natalie Gray** (RE) and **Shar Lownes** (Admin)

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Please look out for our newsletter early in January which will showcase all the great things the students have done this term.

All the staff at the Wey Valley Academy wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Russell".

Rob Russell
Principal

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