



# Chew Valley School

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Dear Parents and Carers

We finished last week with an INSET day which followed our **annual Open Evening**. It was lovely to have so many prospective students and their parents and carers on the site and I cannot remember it ever being as busy as it was. We followed that up this week with our tours of the school where our visitors were able to see the school at work. As ever, the words 'calm' and 'purposeful' along with the statement that the students were warm, approachable and a credit to everyone were ones that were passed back to us which were great to hear. A big thank you goes to the student guides from Years 8, 11 and the Sixth Form who showed our guests around and left a big impression!

Amongst other areas, we spent some time as a staff during the **INSET day** on Friday **focusing on our reading and disciplinary literacy strategy** and thinking how we deepen these over the forthcoming academic year.

### **Our New Cover Room**

An update in that the cover room is up and running with students working in there at certain times when their staff is absent. They all carry out a combination of reading and mathematics to start with. We are closely monitoring which students are using this and if we have any long term absence we will be of course be making alternative provision.

### **Year 13 Parents' Evening**

A big thank you to all of the parents and carers who met with staff online yesterday. This is a really important time for students in Year 13 who are preparing for the months ahead that lead up to their A Level and other Level 3 course examinations. I know many students are busily applying for apprenticeships, the world of work or university places and we wish them all the best with this.

### **CyberFirst Schools Recognition Scheme Silver Award**

I am pleased to say that Chew Valley School has been awarded the Silver Award from the National Cyber Security Centre in recognition of the practice of delivering computer science and cyber security related education. Congratulations to everyone involved.

### **Community Links**

I spent some time last week with other stakeholders working with **the Community Farm** which is located close to Chew Valley Reservoir reviewing their work. They support the school in a variety of ways, giving groups of our students opportunities to learn from them in a variety of our curriculum areas. We are excited to be looking with them at the next stage of their journey. The link to their website is <https://www.thecommunityfarm.co.uk/>. Do have a look at their work and it might be that you wish to order a food box from them.

They are just one of the many links we have with our community. We work closely with the **Chew Valley 10K team, Chew Valley Rugby Club, Chew Valley Badminton Club, Bishop Sutton Tennis Club and Chelwood Bridge Rotary Club** to name but a few and they all enable us to deepen the experiences of our young people.

### **KS3 Tutor Evening along with talks for Years 8 and 9 Parents and Carers - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

We have the opportunity for parents and carers of Years 7, 8 and 9 to come in and meet the tutor on the 10<sup>th</sup> October. A separate letter has been sent with details of how to book appointments. Talks are available for Years 8 and 9 (Year 7 parents and carers had their talk earlier in the term).

### **Our Careers Convention – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

An early heads up that our annual Careers Convention takes place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and students from all years and their families are invited to attend after school. We already have over 40 exhibitors signed up and this number will rise over the coming weeks.

**Year 11 Next Steps**

Year 11 are currently having talks with our Careers Advisor, Mrs Farr, to prepare them for forthcoming Sixth Form Open Evenings and other college and work related applications.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Beynon', with a horizontal line underneath.

Gareth Beynon  
Headteacher