

THE TCS Tribune

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity



Testbourne Community School

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity

A Message from our Headteacher

Dear valued Parents, Carers, and members of the community,

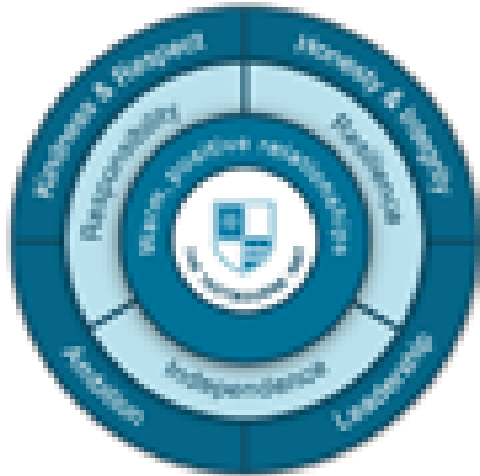
Welcome to the 29th edition of the TCS Tribune. This is our termly newsletter dedicated to sharing the activities of the students and staff in our wonderful school with our wider community.

For our Year 11 cohort, the Summer term has been dominated by the GCSE examinations and the important rituals that celebrate and signify the end of these students’ time with us. Behaviour was exemplary during the exams, in some tough conditions at times, and the Prom was, as usual, a wonderful event. It is so fantastic to see the families turn out to watch the students arrive and see our incredible students looking so amazing and grown up on their final event with us. Behaviour was so good that one of the staff at the hotel said, “These are the politest teenagers we have ever had here! They say please and thank you for everything.” These are likely to be the children of

some of you reading this so I would like to say well done and thank you for raising such wonderful people.

Our mission has always been to help children become independent, resilient and responsible young people and adults of the future. We prioritise preparing them for the next stage of their lives and equipping them to thrive in an ever more complex world. I am sure that our Class of 2026 will be successful, confident and will have a positive effect on those around them.

There have been so many events, trips and visits and other wonderful experiences for your children over the course of the year. Many of these are celebrated in this edition of the Tribune and some will appear in the Autumn edition if they happen later in the term. I think it only right that I take a moment to thank our staff, who so willingly give up their own time, in many cases sacrificing time with their own families, to make these things happen. All staff leading or supervising trips, visits and events that occur outside of school hours are volunteers. Even those that take place during school time require a huge amount of organisation, paperwork and additional work in their own time to meet all the requirements. It is so much appreciated when you can take the time to thank them and I am also thanking them here on your behalf. Please do enjoy reading about the rich experiences your children have with us.



Finally, as you are aware, each half term, we recognise students for consistently demonstrating our Standards of Excellence by presenting them with a Headteacher’s recognition letter. These Standards of Excellence underpin our expectations in the school and are a key component of The Testbourne Way. They are:

Kindness and Respect

Honesty and Integrity

Ambition

Leadership

The letters include the citation from the relevant Head of Year. The recipients for the Spring and Summer term 1 are:

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Jacob A. | Josie H. | Axl L. |
| Violet B. | Digby H. | Neddy M. |
| Demi D. | Isabel J. | Sienna P. |
| James D. | Jasmine J. | Isabella P. |
| Charlie F. | Amelia K. | Rory R. |
| Serafina F. | Favour K. | Daniel S. |
| | Devesh K. | Bea T. |
| | Joy L. | Oscar W. |

All that remains is for me to wish you a very safe and happy Summer break. Please do remind your children about the perils of open water, jumping into water without knowing the depth, and cold shock. We hope that you get the opportunity to spend some quality time with friends and family and we look forward to seeing your children at the beginning of next term.

Best wishes,

Mr Jon Beck

Headteacher

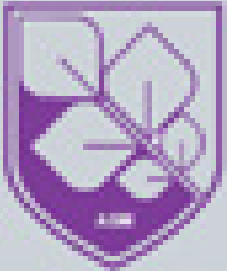


House Recognition Points: Summer Term 2025-2026

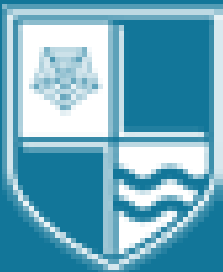
Recognition points are awarded when students demonstrate our Testbourne Standards of Excellence:

- Kindness and Respect
- Honesty and Integrity
- Ambition
- Leadership



House	Recognition Points
	31963
	34264
	36428
	30973

Congratulations To All Our Amazing Students!



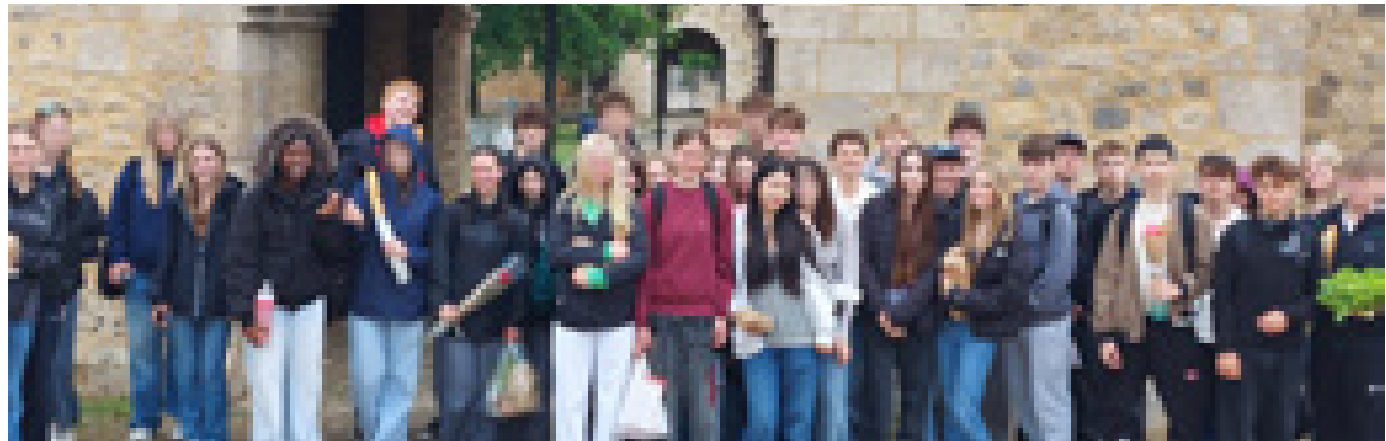
Testbourne Community School
**Recognition
FRIDAY**



Recognition Friday is our weekly celebration of students who consistently demonstrate our school values and show outstanding effort in their learning. It is a positive way to acknowledge success, build confidence and celebrate the achievements of our young people. Each week a different year group is highlighted, with selected students receiving a certificate and a canteen front of queue pass. Below you will find the students who have been part of Recognition Friday this term:



Paris Modern Foreign Languages & Science Trip 2026

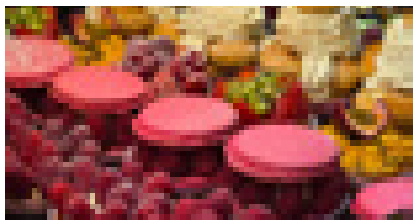
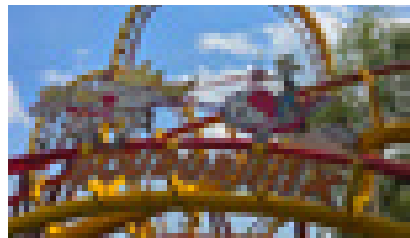
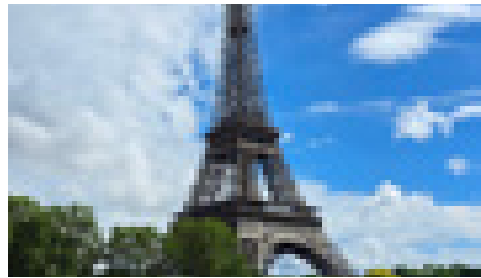


Over the May bank holiday weekend, 40 French and Science pupils embarked on an unforgettable trip to Paris. Based at the beautiful Château de Grand Romain, the group created lasting memories while putting their French into practice in real-life situations.

On the first full day, students explored real-world physics at Parc Astérix, home to some of France’s fastest roller coasters. Alongside the thrills, they also discovered elements of French culture, history and mythology through the adventures of Astérix and Obélix, learning about life in ancient Gaul.

The following day, the group visited a traditional French market town, complete with a castle, moat and charming boulangeries. Pupils enthusiastically conversed with local vendors, sampling a variety of French delicacies—including escargot! Later, they travelled into central Paris, taking in iconic landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame, the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre, the Champs-Élysées and the Musée d’Orsay. A scenic cruise along the River Seine with Bateaux Parisiens offered a different perspective of the city’s famous sights. The day was rounded off with an authentic and delicious crêpe-making activity.

Throughout the trip, students upheld Testbourne’s values of excellence: demonstrating ambition in their learning, showing leadership in new situations and embracing the culture with kindness and respect. The accompanying staff -Mrs Prunty, Mrs Romain, Dr Wilson, Mrs Ramsay and Mr Moore - were extremely impressed by the pupils’ resilience and independence throughout the trip. It was a delight to see pupils embrace the opportunity to discover both French & Science in the real world and we look forward to running this trip again in the future.



"We went to Parc Astérix the theme park based on the characters from the French comic: Astérix the Gaul. It was awesome, they had fast thrilling rides, water rides, gentler rides, super high rides, games that you could try your luck and win prizes, gift shops, and food shops."

"We went on a walk and saw a castle with a moat, and we had a little treasure hunt sheet booklet to fill in. We got 10 euros each to spend at the marché to buy ingredients for our lunch and the winning team got a small prize. It was also beneficial for our French because we got to use the skills we’d learned in school; personally, I think it did help my confidence in French speaking by talking to locals. We also got given really helpful sheets with key phrases."

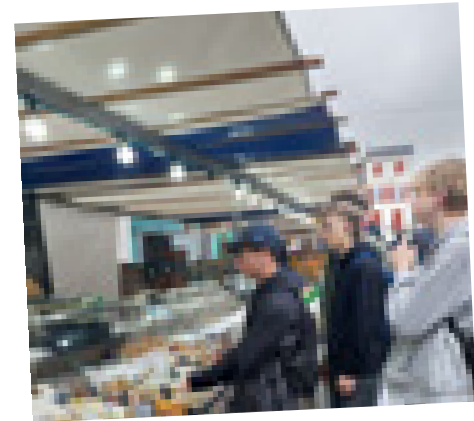
"We visited the Eiffel tower, took lots of pictures and went into some little souvenir shops."

"We got to make crepes from scratch and flavoured them with a range of different toppings; they were very tasty!"

"If I could go again I would, I would highly recommend younger years to go too."

"The highlight of the trip was going into the centre of Paris, it was a great experience to see the Eiffel tower, but also to see it with my friends, it will be a nostalgic memory."

"When we went to the French market, it was awesome to have proper conversations in French, and even after the trip I found myself accidentally using French words to people at school, this will definitely be one of my favourite school experiences."





Ocean Youth Trust - March 2026



Testbourne students had a successful time sailing on the sail training ship Prolific during the Easter holidays, along with Mrs Nottingham and sea staff from the Ocean Youth Trust. The 14 students from year 7 and year 8 learned a lot of new skills during their four night voyage – from how to put up the sails to how to prepare a meal for the whole crew on board! Thank you to Mollie, Elliot and Lisa for writing about their experiences for the Tribune.

Mollie: I really enjoyed the sailing trip on the Prolific. My favourite things that we did were hoisting the sails and watching the sunset. Also, I liked going out on the bowsprit while the boat was moving, even though it was quite scary. I didn't like 'happy hour' because this was cleaning, washing up and making the beds! Along the way, I made new friends and still talk to them and see them at school. I would definitely do it again even though I was nervous because I had never slept on a boat before and I didn't know anyone else going. All in all, it was a great experience, and I would recommend it to others.

Elliot: I very much enjoyed the sailing trip. I think some of the best parts include seeing all the sights and taking part as a crew member. I learnt many useful things such as navigating and tying many different knots. I think this trip is worth every moment and creates memories that will last forever.

Lisa: I enjoyed my time on the Prolific immensely. I made a couple of new friends on the boat which was nice. I enjoyed learning how to put up and adjust the sails and how to steer the boat using the wheel. I loved when it was night time on the last day because it was very nice and peaceful on the deck of the boat in the dark. There were no negatives! The facilities on the Prolific were good and the sea staff were friendly and helpful. I would recommend this as a good experience for anyone to try!

George: I enjoyed the sailing trip & the food was brilliant. Every day was packed with fun and learning new skills from the crew. My favourite thing was taking the helm during the night sail. Meg the trainee watch leader said I was doing really well keeping the ship on course.

The Easter 2026 voyage was the fifth time that Testbourne students have sailed with the Ocean Youth Trust, each time with 14 students. Another voyage will take place in 2027 – do look out for details which will be sent out in the Autumn term.



Year 9 & 10 District Athletics - May 2026

Testbourne's Year 9 and 10 athletes delivered an outstanding performance at the district athletics event at Charlton, finishing 3rd overall in both competitions against eight schools. The Year 9 team came incredibly close to second place—just one point behind, highlighting a brilliant team effort.

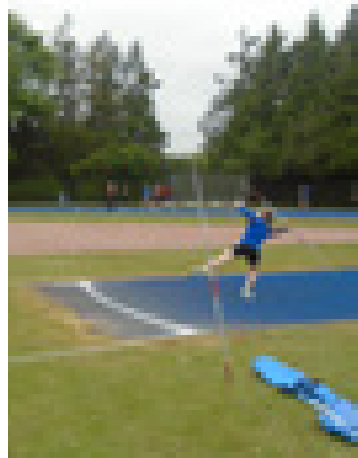
The Year 9 girls dominated on the track, with Shayla storming to victory in the 300m (49.44s) and Alana using smart pacing to win the 800m (2m 55s), closely followed by Emily, securing maximum points. Emily also sprinted to gold in the 200m (28.2s), while Charlotte produced a commanding run in the 1500m, winning by an impressive 13 seconds (6m 15s). In the field, Olivia (2nd, javelin 23.86m) and Sophia (3rd, 18.07m) added valuable points.



For the boys, Jack led from the front to win the 1500m (4:57), Jacob took 2nd in the 200m (25.7), and Flint secured 2nd in the javelin (28.3m).

The Year 10 team continued the success, led by Lily, who set a new district record in the triple jump (11.21m) and also won the discus (28.87m). Freya achieved a superb double, winning both the high jump (1.40m) and shot put (8.34m).

In the boys' events, Greg was in exceptional form, qualifying for county championships with 1st in javelin (30.64m) and 2nd in discus (25.02m). Elias stepped up impressively to claim 2nd in the triple jump (8.82m).



Year 7 & 8 District Athletics - July 2026

On 1 July, Testbourne students enjoyed an excellent day at the District Athletics Competition, competing against six other schools across a range of track and field events. Students were able to compete in up to two events, earning points for their year group and contributing to the overall team standings. The Year 7 competition proved particularly exciting, with just five points separating the top three schools. Testbourne finished joint second alongside John Hanson with 151 points, narrowly behind Harrow Way. The Year 8 team also performed strongly, securing an impressive third-place finish overall. There were many outstanding individual performances throughout the day, including victories in the Long Jump, High Jump, Javelin, Discus, Shot Put, 150m and 1000m events, alongside numerous podium finishes across both year groups. The success of the day was reflected in the selection of 15 Testbourne students to represent Andover at the County Championships. Congratulations to all students who represented the school. Their determination, teamwork and commitment made it a memorable and highly successful day for Testbourne Athletics.

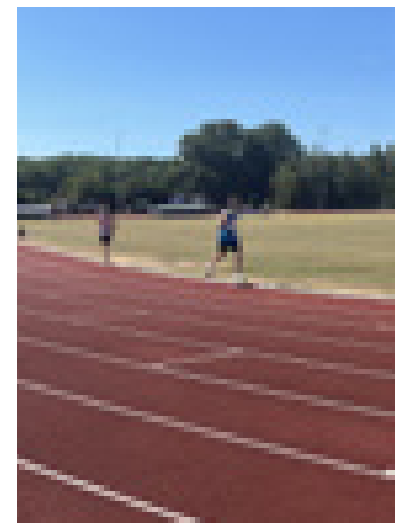


Hampshire County Athletics - July 2026

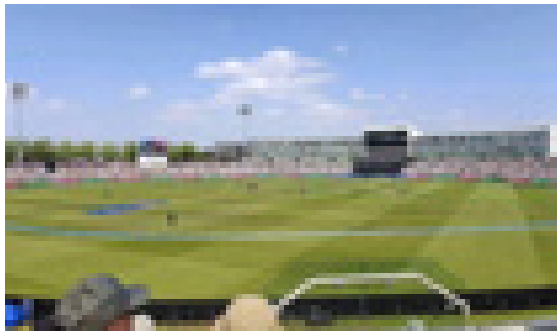
Following the rearranged district event, the County Championships arrived very quickly for our Andover athletes. Despite the short turnaround, our students represented their district with pride and distinction. Competing at county level is a significant achievement, and we were extremely proud of every student selected for the team. Our athletes competed across a wide range of track and field events, demonstrating determination, resilience and excellent sportsmanship throughout the day. There were several notable performances, including a Year 8 athlete who earned a Hampshire silver medal in the 150m final, and another student who secured a bronze medal in the javelin with a personal best throw.

Many of our students achieved performances close to, or better than, their district results, while others gained valuable experience competing against some of the strongest athletes in the county. Across all events, they displayed commitment, perseverance and a willingness to give their very best.

Competing in temperatures approaching 30°C made the day even more challenging, but every athlete rose to the occasion. We could not be prouder of their efforts and the way they represented both their district and the school. Congratulations to all involved on an excellent day of athletics.



Cricket Trip to Utilita Bowl



A hot day in early July saw the PE department take 50 students to watch Hampshire men and women's team play in the T20 blast. It was a great evening which saw the Women's team beat Middlesex but unfortunately the men lost out in the penultimate over of the game.

Year 9 Student Competes in TeamGym Championship

Year 9 student Charlotte competed at the Southern Qualifiers for the British TeamGym Championships back in March. Her team, Basingstoke, were champions in the youth women category. Then April saw her head up to Newcastle for the British Championships whereby they very narrowly came 4th only just missing out on a medal. Well done Charlotte, we know how hard you train each week for events like these.



Year 8 Sparsholt Futures Morning

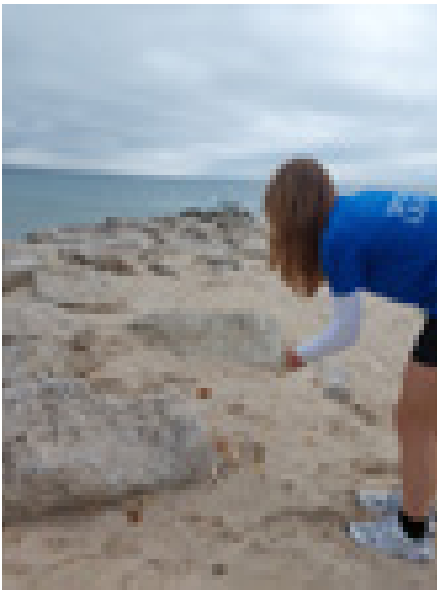
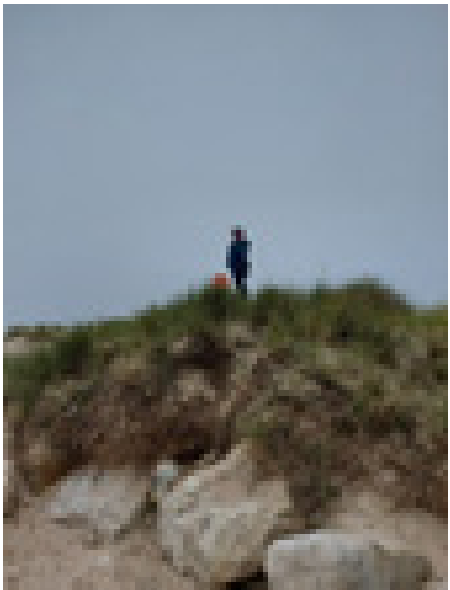
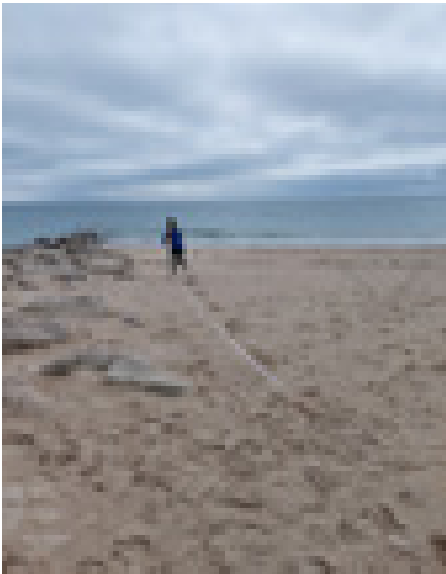


Year 8 students recently enjoyed an inspiring Futures Morning at Sparsholt College, a leading land-based college and working teaching farm. During the visit, students explored a range of career pathways in areas such as agriculture, animal care, conservation and environmental management. The morning provided a valuable insight into college life, with students learning about modern farming practices, animal welfare and the skills needed for careers in the rural sector. They also had the opportunity to see some of the college's impressive facilities and meet staff who shared information about future study and career opportunities. The visit was both engaging and informative, encouraging students to think about their future aspirations and the many exciting opportunities available to them. Thank you to Sparsholt College for hosting such a memorable and educational experience.



Year 10 Geography Trip to Hengistbury Head

Year 10 visited Hengistbury Head in June to collect their GCSE physical geography enquiry data. Thankfully we chose one of the cooler weeks in June to do this trip and on most of the days the sun shone and there was a cool breeze! Students spent the day investigating whether the coastal management at Hengistbury Head was controlling longshore drift (stopping sand being moved along the beach). Students measured the beach width and the drop either side of the groynes. They also drew a sketch of their findings. Since being back in the classroom, students have been writing up their results and have concluded that the groynes are working! Year 10 showed great responsibility by ensuring their data was collected accurately, they worked hard as a team and were super during the trip - well done Year 10!

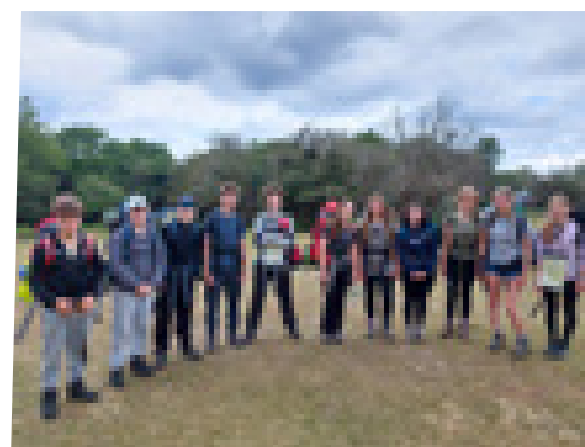




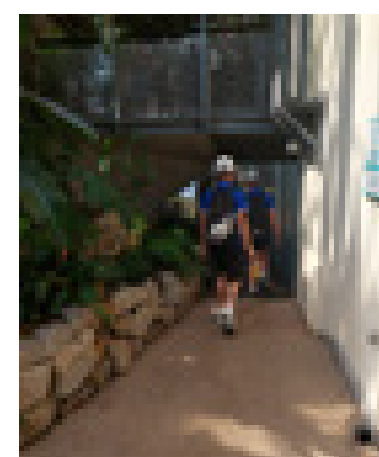
DofE Bronze Training Expedition 9-10 May

45 Testbourne students spent an inspiring and challenging weekend in the New Forest as part of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition training. Divided into seven teams, students navigated planned routes across varied terrain, carrying their own equipment and learning vital skills in teamwork, resilience and self sufficiency. All seven teams showed impressive determination and completed their routes successfully. Their positive attitude, perseverance and mutual support were clear throughout the weekend and are a real credit to each student involved. Experiences such as this are a key part of the DofE programme, helping young people to build confidence, problem-solving skills and a sense of achievement while enjoying the outdoors. The weekend also provided valuable preparation for their assessed expedition later in the year.

A huge thank you goes to our volunteer leaders, whose time, expertise and encouragement made the trip possible. Special thanks are also extended to Dr Wilson, Mrs Cooper and Mrs Nottingham for their commitment and support of the DofE programme at Testbourne. Without their dedication, opportunities like this would not be possible.



Eden Project Geography Trip 2026

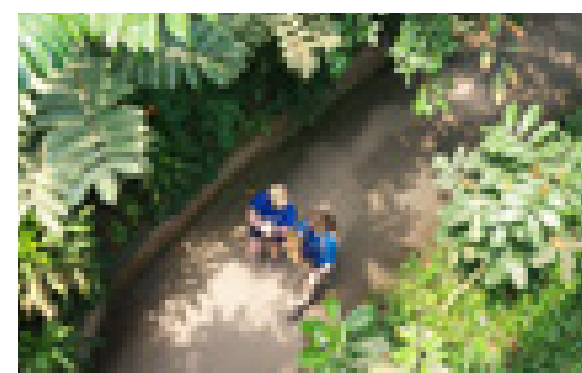
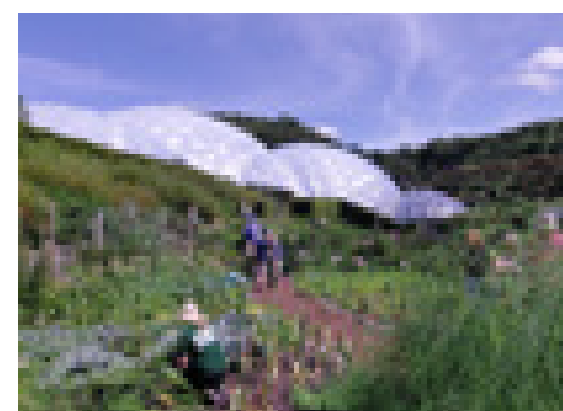


Our trip to the Eden Project was an exciting and memorable experience. It gave us the opportunity to explore the incredible biomes and cultures from around the world in a fun and interactive way. From our 5am start to the 5-hour coach drive back, the whole trip helped to inspire us and teach us about the importance of protecting our planet.

One of the best parts of the trip was spending time with our friends. We enjoyed exploring the different biomes together, taking photos, and avoiding the poisonous and spiky plants. Walking through the tropical rainforest biome was especially memorable, as it felt like we had travelled into a living, green, steam room. We had been tasked with finding and identifying as many tropical plant species that are used in everyday products; bananas, cocoa trees, mangoes, peppercorns and many more. One of the best parts was the waterfall, which provided a great photo

opportunity as well as being a refreshing break from the heat. We also loved exploring the arid Mediterranean biome with its wide range of cacti and bright flowers.

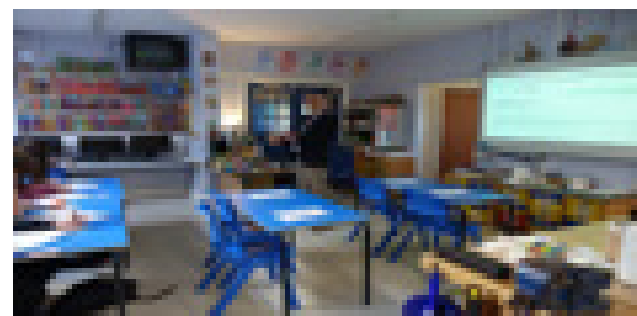
The visit was not only educational but also a great chance to build friendships and create lasting memories. Overall, the Eden Project trip was a fantastic experience that we will remember for a long time. We are grateful to our teachers and the Eden Project's staff for organising such an enjoyable and inspiring day.





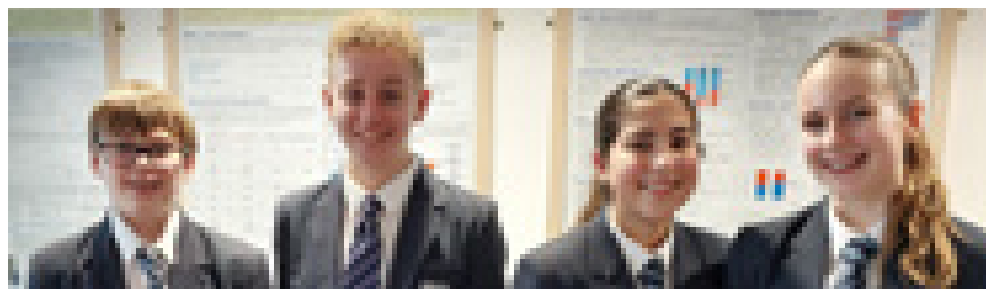
Mental health Awareness week

This year, for Mental Health Awareness Week, Testbourne focused on the theme 'Action', highlighting the importance of taking action when someone may need mental health support. Throughout the week, students took part in assemblies and tutor activities that explored how small actions—such as checking in on a friend or speaking to a trusted adult—can make a big difference. A huge well done to all students and staff who got involved and helped to promote this important message across the school.



Study Skills Day

The school recently hosted a Year 10 Study Skills Day, to support students in developing effective approaches to their learning. The programme focused on key areas such as revision strategies, organisation, and exam preparation, equipping students with practical techniques to enhance their confidence and independence. Students engaged positively throughout the day, demonstrating a strong commitment to improving their study habits. The skills explored will provide a valuable foundation as they continue their academic journey.



ABRSM Music Exams

We are now into our second year of being an approved music theory exam centre for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. Our music theory club, led by our Governor, Mrs Ellis, is a popular extra curricular option for many of our musicians that learn instruments inside and outside of school. This term we say congratulations to Amelia (grade 3), Seren (grade 1) and William (grade 4) for passing their music theory exams.



Andover Space Day Trip

On Thursday 23 April TCS took 13 Year 9 students to Andover College to take part in a range of Space themed lectures, Q&A, and workshops. This was presented by Portsmouth University where specialist professionals from the space industry shared their journey and typical working day in their field. This included how satellites were used to track weather, geothermal, and geological impacts on earth. Another specialist spoke about how he worked on the James Webb Telescope and how it is used to discover the mysteries of the universe. Students also completed a workshop using a satellite tracking website to investigate

the 15,000 satellites currently orbiting our planet. They completed a range of challenges using this website to find out the velocity of different satellites, where they were orbiting, their altitude and what they might be monitoring.

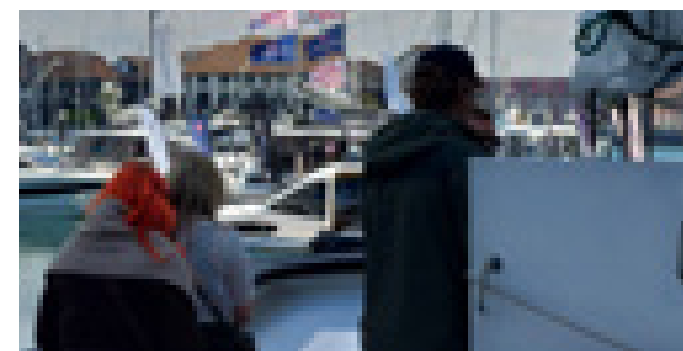


U15 Cricket Victory!

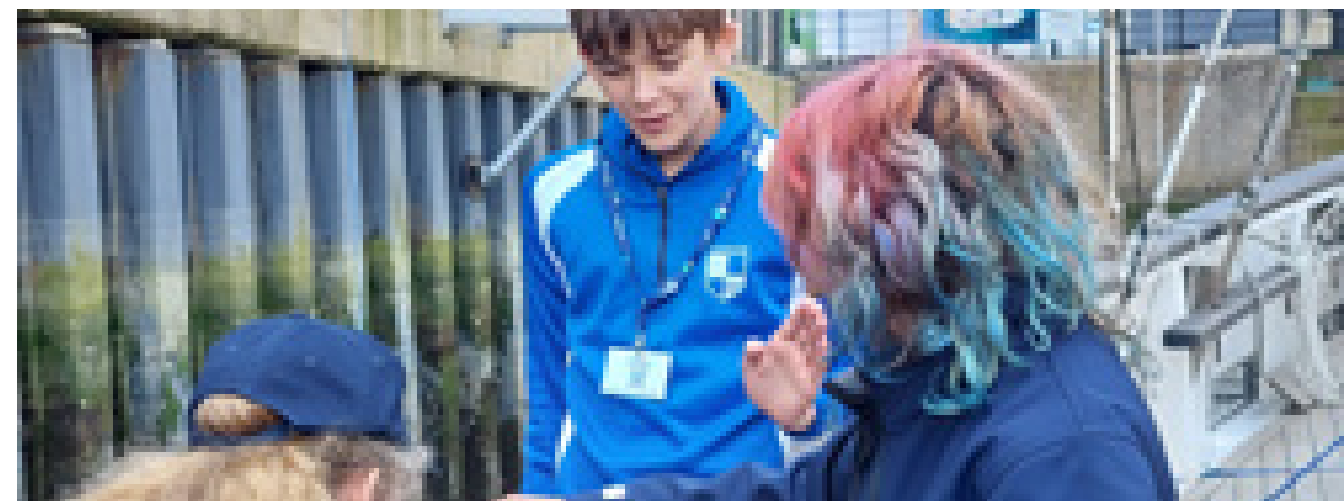
The Testbourne Community School U15 cricket team played their first round of the Knight-Stokes cup against Mountbatten School, Romsey and won. Testbourne put on 92 runs and after their 14 overs we were unstoppable.

The U13 cricket team enjoyed a great cup run, beating Thornden in the first round by defending 105 with some excellent bowling. In the semi-final against Toynbee School at Whitchurch CC, Martha and Ellie top-scored as we made 61 all out. Despite taking six wickets, Toynbee reached the target in 11 overs.

South Coast Boat Show



Six Testbourne students enjoyed volunteering for the day at the South Coast Boat Show on Friday 8th May. All six have previously sailed on the Ocean Youth Trust's sail training ship Prolific, and they spent the day showing visitors around, helping with fundraising for the charity and talking about the work of the Ocean Youth Trust, which introduces young people to sailing. They were fantastic ambassadors for Testbourne and for the Ocean Youth Trust.



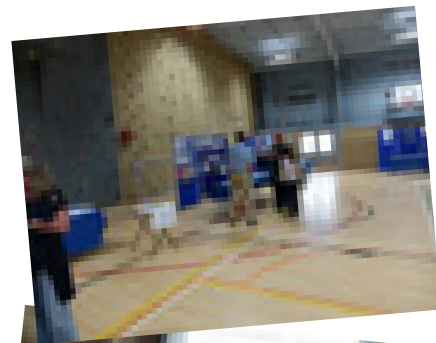
Our 2026 Year 7s receive their silver badges

On the 15th of May, 6 students from Year 7 received their first Silver Badges here at Testbourne. This is such a brilliant achievement for our youngest students and we couldn't be more proud of their attitude to learning and resilience in the face of change this year! They constantly impress us day by day and we are sure they will do brilliantly in the transition to Year 8 in September!



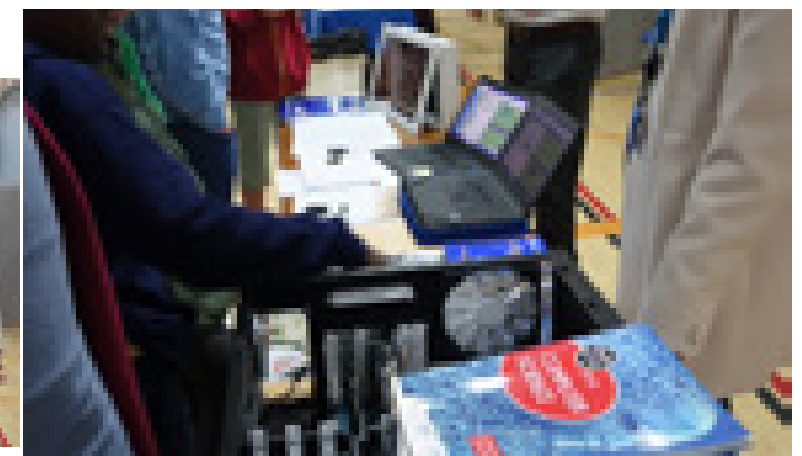
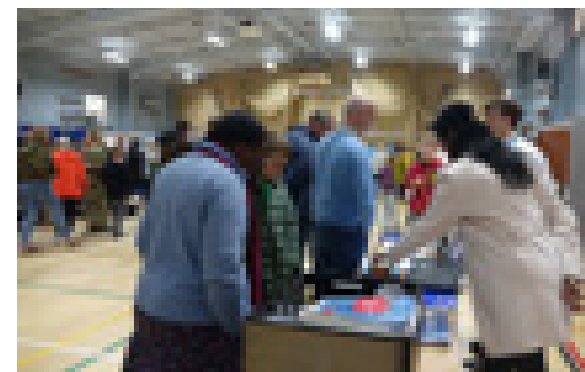
Year 10 Information Evening 2026

On Wednesday 3rd June 2026, we welcomed parents of Year 10 students into school to go through some of the important milestones as our wonderful Year 10 students head towards Year 11 and their GCSEs! Mr Cooper shared key dates, Mrs MacAulay inspired parents and students with revision tips, Dr Wilson ran through some of the important points about exams and mocks, and Mrs Gray talked about Access Arrangements. The Heads of English, Maths and Science were on hand for advice, and Miss Cartridge shared career and college information, alongside a representation from Peter Symonds College. We were delighted to see so many parents and students attending.



Year 6 -> Year 7 Information Evening

We were excited to host our first Year 6 → Year 7 Curriculum Evening this week. The event provided a valuable opportunity for prospective students to gain an insight into life at our school, explore the curriculum, and ask questions about their future learning journey. Parents and carers were also able to find out more about the wide range of opportunities we offer and how we support students as they transition to secondary school. We would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a success. A special thank you goes to our fantastic student helpers, whose responsibility, kindness and articulate communication truly embodied The Testbourne Way. They were an excellent support throughout the evening and a credit to our school.



Year 7 Student joins Winchester Cathedral Choir

A huge well done to Georgina in Year 7 for securing herself a place in the Winchester Cathedral Girls Choir. They only take 20 girls total, and within a 20 mile radius, so this takes some serious talent!

You can catch Georgina singing on the Winchester Cathedral website. All of us here at Testbourne Community School are so proud of her!



Year 8 Students Achieve Silver Recognition Badges

On Thursday May 14th, 11 Year 8 students were awarded Silver recognition badges. These students had to achieve over 200 recognition points this year to achieve this milestone.

Our Year 8's are in their final year before they choose their GCSE options and we know they will be brilliant. We are so proud of our students and love to see them excel.



Whitchurch Folk Festival

The Testbourne Folk Club were busy on Saturday as they did 3 performances throughout the day at Whitchurch Folk Festival. Ably led by our Violin teacher and well known local Folk Musician Anna Mullens. There is a strong folk music tradition in Whitchurch and we are delighted our musicians can contribute to keeping these musical traditions alive in our home town.



Sports Stars May 2026

In May, 12 students from Years 7–9 represented Testbourne at the Basingstoke Schools Competition at QMC, taking part in a variety of skill-based challenges alongside a swimming event. With 18 competitors in each category, the standard was high across the board. Our students performed brilliantly throughout the day, achieving a number of event wins, podium finishes and strong top-10 results, demonstrating excellent effort, determination and teamwork.

Highlights included:

Year 7: Outstanding all-round performances, including multiple event wins, a second-place overall finish, and additional top-three results.

Year 8: Strong and consistent efforts across events, with a win in cycling and several podium and top-six finishes.

Year 9: Excellent results, including a win in the skills event, a second-place finish, and a number of consistent top-four performances.

Overall, it was a fantastic day of competition, with all students representing the school with pride. Well done to everyone involved



Track Knockout

The Track Knockout competition is a running-only event giving local Hampshire schools the chance to compete at a high level. Our first rounds took place at Robert May's (Under 15s) and Lord Wandsworth College (Under 13s). All of our students gave everything they had, with three age groups finishing solidly mid-table.

Our standout performance came from the U13 Year 7 girls, who finished an impressive 2nd place and earned their spot in the Semi Finals at Winchester on May 23rd.

Although not all of our original team were able to attend — it was the last day of term, after all — the girls who competed showed real determination. They faced strong opposition and pushed themselves right to the end. This year, we weren't quite strong enough to reach the final, but with the whole team only in Year 7, we know they'll be back next year with even more experience and fire.



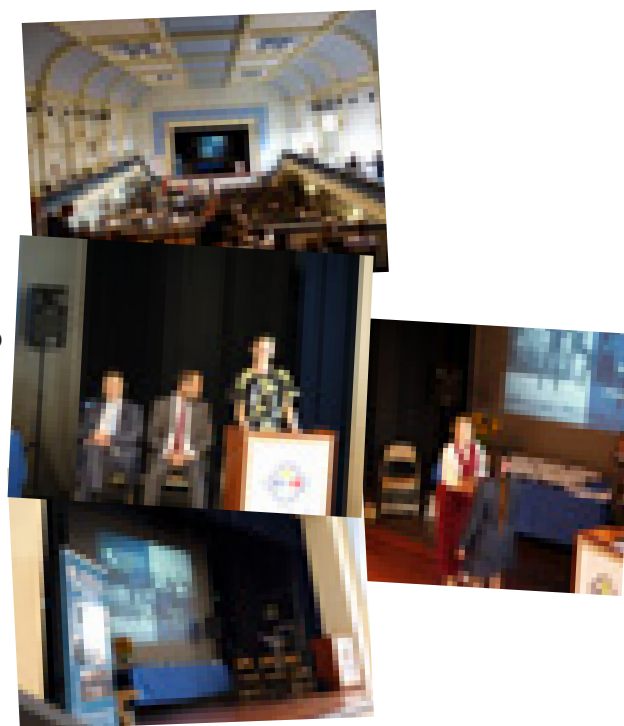
Year 11 Prom 2026



Prize Giving 2026

On Thursday 9th July we held our annual Prize Giving Ceremony in Winchester. It was great to be back in our original venue, the beautiful historic Guildhall. Not only is this a very prestigious location for the award ceremony but it also had air conditioning which was much appreciated during the recent heatwave. The choir opened the event with a fantastic version of 'From now on' by Pasek and Paul, and came back onto the stage after the interval to perform 'Something like this' by Coldplay. The choir and our fabulous pianists, Maxym and Shaun, were recognised with a well-deserved 'Leadership in Music Award.'

We were very fortunate to have Mrs Emma Lloyd, Director of Create the Ripple as our guest speaker this year. Emma gave a personal, uplifting and incredibly positive speech to our prize winners before presenting them with their certificates and trophies. It was wonderful to recognise the effort and achievement of over 160 students with parents, PTFA, governors, sponsors from local businesses and staff. Congratulations to all the students who received awards, it was a brilliant occasion to celebrate your success.



Goodbye Year 11 - Class of 2026





Testbourne Community School



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