Newsletter

28th November 2025



Dear Testwood families,

We are very proud to have been selected by Southampton F.C. to be the school for their academy players who do not currently live locally. That we have been chosen to be entrusted with the education of these young footballers is powerful recognition of the caring, inclusive and ambitious culture here at Testwood. I know that when more players join Testwood they will be warmly



This partnership between Testwood and Southampton F.C. has been backed by the Premier League Education Programme, to strengthen support for young footballers aiming for professional careers.

The partnership aims to enhance the development and wellbeing of Academy players by combining high-quality education with elite football training.

The partnership enables Southampton FC's Academy to continue developing its full-time training model, allowing players from further afield to access their education closer to the club's Staplewood Campus. This structure supports players in balancing their academic commitments with the demands of their football schedule, while reducing travel time and improving overall wellbeing.

Mr Ward, Deputy Head at Testwood School, said,

"We're delighted to be working with Southampton FC's Academy to support these talented young athletes. This partnership provides a fantastic environment for them to succeed both academically and on the pitch."

Tristan Suberu currently attending Testwood added,

"This is a fantastic opportunity for me. Testwood School has made me feel really welcome, and being part of this partnership means I can fully focus on my GCSEs while continuing to play for Southampton FC."

Duncan Fearnhead, Academy Manager at Southampton FC, said,

"Our partnership with Testwood School marks an exciting step forward in our ambition to be recognised as one of the country's leading and most productive academies. It enables us to deliver a world-class football programme supported by a strong and flexible education model that meets the needs of elite young players.

Players complete their core studies at Testwood while also benefiting from a bespoke education and life-skills programme at Staplewood, delivered by Saints own qualified staff. This approach ensures that every player's academic and personal development progresses hand in hand with their football journey."



Pictured (L-R) are Becky Yeates (Southampton FC), Duncan Fearnhead (Southampton FC), Mr Ward and Tristan Suberu (Testwood) and John Fortescue (Southampton FC)

Winter Showcase

The Winter Showcase was a great success and provided a lovely start to our Christmas celebrations. The evening showcased the talent of our students, from performances of Blood Brothers, classic rock and classical piano pieces to festive favourites performed by the cast of Oliver Jr. and our Year 7 and 9 Drama Clubs. We would like to thank all the staff, parents and families who organised the show and came along to support the evening: your presence and encouragement made a real difference to our young performers.



Infoirmation Through Arbor App

We encourage parents and carers to use the Arbor app to receive updates from school about their students and we have been doing this for several years now. We will be reviewing the effectiveness of this method of information sharing. If you wish to contribute to this review then please email me your comments/observations/suggestions: twebber@testwoodschool.co.uk by the end of this term. Thank you.



School Uniform

Students bending of the uniform rules is nothing new as I'm sure you recall from your own time at school. The latest adaptation is around flared trousers, which are not part of our uniform rules. School trousers should be straight-legged. Please could you bear this in mind when buying new trousers for school. I appreciate that retailers are often keen to market items as 'school uniform' which can be unhelpful.

The school uniform rules can be found here. If there are any issues please contact your child's tutor.

Please note that thanks to Testwood parents and families we have a supply of pre-loved uniform available.

Sustainability

As part of our role in helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions we include the Young Climate Warriors weekly 'carbon-busting, sustainable living challenges in this newsletter for you and your children to discuss and try.



Young Climate Warriors | Weekly Challenge | Challenge Completed button

Maths Stars of the week



Year 11: Josh W – 11BL Year 8: Tyler C - 8B1

Leyla H – 11L1 Harvey H - 8G1

Year 10: Adam B – 10EG Year 7: Megan G - 7B1 Autumn G – 10E1

Henry F – 7G1

Year 9: Leo G - 9B2

Yitzak R – 9L2

Key events over the next few weeks (and INSET days)

11th December Year 10 progress Evening (16.30-19.30)

19th December Last Day of Term. 1pm finish for students.

5th January INSET Day. School Closed for students

6th January Spring term begins for all students.



Community Events & Resources



Back to Basics is a community campaign based on the 5 ways of wellbeing to help support families to manage their wellbeing within the home creating empowerment and resilience thus having a reduction on referrals and waiting times for specialist services.

https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/chi Idrenandfamilies/back-to-basics









Have a great weekend.

Mr Webber Headteacher