



Valley Primary School Newsletter

GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE!
ASPIRE...ENJOY...ACHIEVE...CHALLENGE!

Friday
20th
December
2024

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your support during what has been a great first term of our academic year. This term has been significant in the history of our school as we have become an Academy and joined The Elliot Foundation Academy Trust (TEFAT). We are all delighted to now be part of a large family of schools and look forward to an exciting future ahead.

As you all know, at Valley we aspire for excellence throughout, enjoy learning, achieve success and then challenge ourselves further. It has been great to see our children live this vision on a daily basis and continue to develop their learning whilst growing as young people. I have been especially impressed by our children's determination and resilience as we have prioritised retrieval skills this term, aiming to help our children remember more of their learning on a long term basis. I continue to be immensely proud to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school and to have your children in our care.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff. They work so hard and we are very lucky to have such dedicated and caring leaders, teachers, teaching assistants, admin staff, lunchtime supervisors, site staff and cleaners. I also thank our partnership agencies, particularly our CSAWs Education Welfare Officer, our ARC staff team, our Solihull Music Partnership staff and our SMBC catering team.

I thank our fabulous Governing board, who will soon become our Academy Community Council. Their commitment as volunteers is incredible and they give up so much time to work alongside school leaders to continue to develop our school. I thank our PTFA who give up so much time to organise lovely events for our children and raise money for our school.

Particular thanks also to you, our parents for the partnership that we have as we strive to offer the best possible education to our children. Above all however my thanks go to our wonderful children for the many smiles, joys and special moments which they have created and shared this term.

As we now wait for Santa to arrive, please do take a moment to reflect on the many happy moments we have shared during our Christmas Calendar events which have brought smiles to all our faces and spread joy. Don't forget to visit our video centre on the school website to view a snippet of each of our Christmas performances. There is also a special message from Santa to Valley children which the children enjoyed very much today.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas. Christmas is a very special time for us all when we celebrate the birth of Jesus and enjoy spending precious time with our families and being thankful for the wonderful people in our lives. Enjoy every moment with your children, they are very special young people and won't be children excited about Christmas forever! They are growing up quickly, so treasure the moment!

I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year which I have every faith will be another extremely successful year for our school community.

Merry Christmas Everybody!
Miss Milewski

VALLEY NEWS AND REMINDERS

Safeguarding Concerns

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. If you have a concern about a child, please do contact school to discuss this. Should this concern arise during a school holiday when school is closed, please email using the parent liaison email address FAO Designated Safeguarding Lead. We will have a DSL on call each day during the school holidays who will check these emails and contact you or the relevant agency should this be needed. You can also contact Solihull MASH team directly on 0121 788 4300 option 2 (Monday to Thursday 8:45am - 5:20pm, Friday 8:45am - 4.30pm), or 0121 605 6060 (Evenings, weekends or bank holidays) or if you feel a child is in imminent danger, please call 999 and alert the police.

SEN Newsletter

Our termly SEN newsletter is now ready to view on our school website. You will find it on the 'Inclusion and SEND' page or can click here: <https://www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=687&type=pdf> to be taken directly to it! This term's focus is Developmental Language Disorder. Our Autumn newsletter also contains strategies and tips to support your child's additional needs during the festive period, along with links to webinars and podcasts which may be of use too.

Touchwood Choir

Well done to our choir who entertained our local community at Touchwood this week. They really helped shoppers get into the festive spirit with their singing. A clip of the choir singing is on the video centre of our school website. Please do have a listen and if you believe that our choir deserves to win the Touchwood Choir Competition, please vote for them on the Touchwood website <https://christmasattouchwood.co.uk/christmaschoir>



The winner gets money for their school, which we would love to win as we need some new Glockenspiels to top up our supplies!

PTFA and Parental Donation Thank you!

A really big thank you to our fabulous PTFA who kindly agreed to use some of the Christmas Fayre money to fund a new sound system and microphones which were installed yesterday.

A massive thank you also for the extremely generous **£300 donation** from a very kind parent which we have used alongside other parental school fund donations to upgrade our second system and purchase new speakers.

We now have good sound and microphones on both sites which we are most grateful for. The children enjoyed trying these out for the first time today in their House Parties.

Donations -Thank you

Thank you to everybody who brought in food treats to give to the local food bank, an elderly or housebound person or local families in need. These will be much appreciated over Christmas, we are sure.

Thank you also to everybody who sent in cake donations for the school council bake sale or who donated to the school council initiative to sell programs at our Christmas performances. The pupil leadership team are looking forward to spending the money in the New Year.

Finally, thank you to everybody who wore a Christmas jumper and donated to Save the Children and our school project to buy cushions for our little ones on Fallowfield Road to use in assembly. The children enjoyed their Christmassy day.

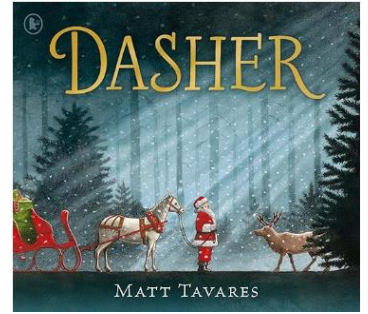
Parking

We would like to remind all parents/carers that parking is prohibited on school car parks at drop off and collection times and is a risk to pedestrians. Registration plates will be recorded.

OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

'Dasher': How a Brave Little Doe Changed Christmas Forever by Matt Tavares

Dasher is a little doe with a wish in her heart. She spends her days with her family under the hot sun in a travelling circus, but she longs for a different life – one where there is snow beneath her hooves and the North Star above her head. One day, when the opportunity arises, Dasher seizes her destiny and takes off in pursuit of the life she wants to live. It's not long before she meets a nice man in a red suit with a horse-drawn sleigh, a man named Santa. And soon, with the help of a powerful Christmas wish, nothing will be the same...



This book is suitable to read to children in Lower Phase.

SHARING OUR LEARNING

Lower Phase

In **Year 1** the children have had a fabulous week getting ready for Christmas. They have enjoyed making their cards and calendars whilst also thinking about why Christmas is so important to Christians. They finished their week with a fabulous Christmas Party. We would like to wish all our families a Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.



Middle Phase

Year 2 have been making calendars showing the four seasons. They used their cutting skills to create a tree and added 3-D elements to represent each season.



Upper Phase

The children in **Year 5** have been having a fantastic week of learning as we approach Christmas. They have enjoyed lots of art work this week, including making Christmas cards and calendars to take home. Year 5 children and staff wish you all a very Merry Christmas, have a lovely holiday and thank you for all your continued support.



The children in **Year 5** also designed some Christmas sleighs, complete with mechanisms, turbo boosting engines and storm buster protective shields to ensure santa can deliver the presents to all the Valley children!



PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

Note from the Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Team thought that this might be useful for parents/carers during the Christmas holidays. There are plenty of options where your **child can eat free or even for just £1**. Further information can be found at www.moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING CHRISTMAS 2024
moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

HORIZONS
 Spend £8 from the hot menu and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSAY RESTAURANTS
 Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

SAMSURVVS CAFES
 Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot meal. From 10:00am every day.

ASDA
 Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

WHITFIELD INNS
 Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS PAYNE
 Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

TRAVELodge & PREMIER INN
 Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS
 Every Monday to Friday, 5 - 7pm, kids' meals are £1 with every adult meal.

THE FRIDAYS
 Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards' Members purchase any adult meal (Via App)

PRETO
 Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Hall Tarns

EMER INNS
 Kids eat for £1 from Monday 21st October to Friday 1st November 2024 (excludes weekends)

COCONUT TREE
 One child (under 10) eats free every day Monday 21st December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025.

LAS VEGAS
 Download the app and join 'My Las Vegas' for free meals for mini-ignames. Kids get a main, two sides and a dessert with every adult main (or three tapas dishes) purchased.

BELLA ITALIA
 Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-8pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

TABLE TABLE
 Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL CREEK
 Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM
 Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 1pm

BEA
 Kids get a meal from 95p daily from Tiam

HONEY WINGS
 Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS
 Under 16 eat for free with any adult meal.

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Further Developing Partnerships

It is always a pleasure to receive your comments and feedback, and we are always happy to answer any questions or queries you have, please continue to email these to parentliaisonlead@valley.solihull.sch.uk

ATTENDANCE – W/C 9 December – 13 December 2024

UPPER PHASE	Ennis 6	97.5%	Farah 6	90.7%	Simmonds 6	92.7%	Holst 5	98.0%	Lynn 5	92.8%	Webber 5	93.9%
	Hawking 4	97.7%	Newton 4	96.3%	Sharman 4	93.0%						
MIDDLE PHASE	Hockney 3	94.8%	Lowry 3	96.3%	Riley 3	91.2%	Churchill 2	94.8%	Nightingale 2	98.9%	Pankhurst 2	95.4%
LOWER PHASE	Bell 1	84.3%	Lee 1	95.5%	Shaw 1	85.9%	Aston R	90.4%	Grylls R	94.6%	Peake R	92.5%
	Nursery	84.3%										

Well done to the highlighted classes who are this week's winners!

DIARY DATES

Please join us for these events...

- 14th January – Maths Workshop – Churchill 2 – 9am
- 15th January – Maths Workshop – Nightingale 2 – 9am
- 16th January – Maths Workshop – Pankhurst 2 – 9am

Please talk to your children about these events...

- 6th January – INSET Day
- 7th January – Start of Term
- 8th January – Engage Events – Whole School

Please support your child to participate in...

- 8th January – Y1 Engage Event with dressing up
- 10th January – Christmas card recycling day

Please click on the link below to see our Valley Calendar. This will be updated weekly with new events as they arise.

<https://www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=2&pid=8&viewid=3>