



Valley Primary School Newsletter

GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN
BE!

ASPIRE...ENJOY...ACHIEVE...CHALLENGE!

Friday
22nd
December
2023

NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful Autumn term! On many occasions, I have been amazed by the wonderful achievements of our children and the resilience and determination they have shown.

I look back on the term and reflect on the many good opportunities we have shared as a school community. We have enjoyed so many fabulous events, the last of which have been joyous Christmas performances which have brought smiles to all our faces this last fortnight. If you couldn't join us, there is a snippet for you to enjoy on our school website so click here to enjoy this: <https://valley-primary.primarysite.media/playlist/spreading-christmas-joy-2024>

There have been so many lovely enrichment opportunities, parent events and learning activities this term and our children have aspired for excellence throughout, enjoyed learning, achieved success and then challenged themselves further. It has been great to see them continue to develop their learning and grow as young people. 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 Premier Education sports coaches and our SMBC catering team.

I thank our fabulous Governing board. 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.

Santa spoke directly to our children today after he received a letter from me explaining how proud I was of all the children at Valley. Santa talked to them about the reason for Christmas, showing them his crib alongside praising the children for always being good and showing our school values. His parting message was a reminder for them to always be kind, such an important value and something which underpins everything we do at Valley. It was lovely to hear Santa full of praise for our children. Santa's message is on the school website if any children missed it or would like to listen again:

<https://valley-primary.primarysite.media/playlist/message-from-santa-to-valley-children-december-2023>



As we now wait for Santa to visit our houses on Christmas Eve, 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 we be another extremely successful year for our school community.

Merry Christmas Everybody!

Miss Milewski

VALLEY NEWS AND REMINDERS

Touchwood Choir Competition

Please vote for Valley! On Monday, our superb choir performed at Touchwood Shopping Centre in the atrium whilst the public were busily doing their Christmas shopping. Many people stopped and commented on how great the children sung and they brought smiles to so many faces. We recorded a short snippet of them singing which we shared on our school Facebook site. Valley is competing against schools across Solihull to be crowned Touchwood Choir Winners of the year. If you think Valley deserves to win the competition, please vote for us here:

<https://christmasattouchwood.co.uk/christmaschoir>



School Uniform

Please be reminded that we expect all children to wear the correct school uniform every day. A list of our uniform is detailed here:

<https://www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk/uniform/>

Could we especially remind you that our school jumpers should be V neck and school ties should be worn and visible every day. This makes our school uniform look so smart and encourages those high expectations across.

Thank You Mrs Harper-Maund

A huge thank you to Mrs Harper-Maund for the care and support she has shown our Valley children. We are sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Harper-Maund all the very best as she moves to her next venture.

Contact Details

Please be reminded that we are keen to support our parents and carers and are happy to address any questions or concerns you may have, as well as welcoming feedback. Useful contacts are included on our website: [Contact Details | Valley Primary School \(secure-primariesite.net\)](#) Amongst contact details that we hope you find useful, there are class email accounts for direct contact with your child's class teacher. Please note that class emails are not checked daily, so we ask that you contact the office for any urgent enquiries.

School Streets at Valley Primary School – Fallowfield Road Site

Please be reminded that following consultation, the School Streets scheme will be implemented from the **8th January 2024**. Vehicles will be prohibited from entering into or out of a section of Fallowfield Road outside the infant site gates, Mountjoy Crescent and Meriden Rise during the restricted times of **8am -8.50 in the morning, 2.35 – 3.35pm Monday to Thursday and 1.05 – 2.05pm on Friday's only**. If you have any queries about the scheme, please contact highways@solihull.gov.uk.

Chewing Gum

We would like to remind all parents/carers that chewing gum is not permitted in school at anytime.

Who's in Charge?

With Christmas and New Year celebrations coming up, we would like to highlight the 'Who's in Charge?' campaign developed by Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership. This campaign urges parents, and others with responsibility for children, to be aware of a range of potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol while caring for children. There are a series of videos and posters available to promote this messaging. These resources can be located [here](#).

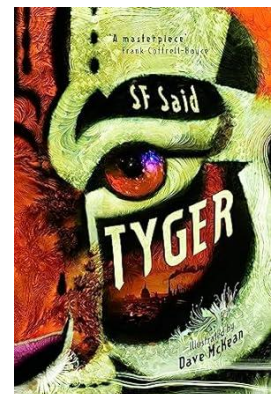
OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

"Tyger" by SF Said

This wonderfully written tale is set in a version of London where the Empire rules and a segregated society has formed. There are dark themes explored within the book but it is a story of hope and the want for a better future. The main character, Adam, discovers a Tyger - an animal thought to be extinct – in a rubbish dump and sets about finding a way to save it – and the rest of the world with it.

You'll enjoy this book, if you have enjoyed others about saving our planet and bringing people together such as *The Last Bear* and *The Last Wild*.

This book is suitable for readers in Year 5 and 6.



Life Skill Champions

This half term, the Life Skill focus has been Physical Health Management and we have been exploring ways to be more active, improve our physical skills and develop a greater understanding of our physical health. We have encouraged the children to take part in activities that celebrate their physical achievements -no matter how big or small: from developing fine motor skills such as learning how to zip up your coat and tie your shoe laces to gross motor skills like hitting a target and taking part in a sports competition.

Congratulations to our Life Skill Champions for this half term, who are now the proud owners of a gold star badge.

Next half term (Spring 1), our Life Skill focus is Time Management Skills.

Starley N:	Lily B	Grylls R:	Eden U	Shaw 1:	Emie-Rose O
Whittle N:	Violet T	Peake R:	Elia C-H	Bell 1:	Elijah S
		Aston R:	Isobel J	Lee 1:	Matilda K
Pankhurst 2:	Cerys N	Hockney 3:	Emily T	Hawking 4:	Esme S
Churchill 2:	Ciarnna B	Lowry 3:	Jacob R	Newton 4:	Oscar B
Nightingale 2:	Alexandria E	Riley 3:	Emilie R	Sharman 4:	Victoria E
Webber 5:	Jemimah A	Farah 6:	Emma S		
Holst 5:	Tiana B	Ennis 6:	Charlie M		
Lynn 5:	Sofia D	Simmonds 6:	Arohi B		

PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

Note from the Parent Liaison Lead

I would like to thank you all on behalf of the staff for all the lovely gifts that have been received from you all. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the new year. Thank you for your continued support.

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 11 December – 15 December 2023

UPPER KS2	Ennis 6	80.7%	Farah 6	90.0%	Simmonds 6	93.3%	Holst 5	97.6%	Lynn 5	91.4%	Webber 5	93.4%
LOWER KS2	Hawking 4	94.8%	Newton 4	93.8%	Sharman 4	95.2%	Hockney 3	91.3%	Lowry 3	93.2%	Riley 3	89.7%
KS1	Churchill 2	88.8%	Nightingale 2	81.2%	Pankhurst 2	94.2%	Bell 1	94.5%	Lee 1	93.6%	Shaw 1	87.1%
EYFS	Aston R	85.7%	Grylls R	99.0%	Peake R	93.6%	Starley N	70.8%	Whittle N	87.9%		

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

DIARY DATES

8 January – INSET Day
 9 January – Children Return to School
 10 January – Engage Events
 12 January – Christmas Card Recycling Day
 15 January – Solihull Reception Admission Deadline for September 2024 Cohort
 16 January – Maths Workshop – Churchill 2 – 9am
 17 January – Maths Workshop – Nightingale 2 – 9am
 17 January – Year 2 Optional Tests Parents Meeting -5pm
 18 January – Maths Workshop – Pankhurst 2 – 9am
 18 January – Year 6 SATS Parent Meeting – 5pm
 22 January – Maths Workshop – Ennis 6 – 9am
 23 January - Maths Workshop – Farah 6 – 9am
 24 January – Maths Workshop – Simmonds 6 – 9am
 W/C 29 January – National Story Telling Week
 30 January – Teams Parent Workshop – Behaviour Strategies – 12pm
 31 January – Year2 Trip to Black Country Museum

2 February – NSPCC Number Day
 5 – 9 February – Children's Mental Health Week
 5 February – Reception Express Event for Parents – 2.45pm
 6 February – Year 4 Hawking and Newton Trip to Dhamma Talaka Peace Pagoda – 9.15am
 6 February – Safer Internet Day
 6 February – Year1 Express Event for Parents – 2.45pm
 7 February – Year 5 Trip to National Space Centre
 8 February – Year 4 – Sharman – Trip to Dhamma Talaka Peace Pagoda – 9.15am
 8 February – Year 4 Express Event for Parents – 2.45pm
 9 February – House Point Celebrations
 9 February – End of Half Term

