



Valley Primary School Newsletter

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

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

Friday
1st
December
2023

NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today we begin our Christmas Calendar of events. There are lots of lovely activities for our children to do in the lead up to Christmas so please do follow this with your children and encourage them to participate. Our calendar begins with our fabulous Christmas Fayre which our PTFA have organised ... lots of exciting games and stalls, a lovely performance from our school choir and a wonderful Santa's Grotto! Thank you to everybody who has been involved in organising such a lovely starting event for our Christmas Calendar.

Have a good weekend everybody,

Miss Milewski

VALLEY NEWS AND REMINDERS

SEN Parent Drop-in Opportunity

Future date warning! On **21st February 2024, 9:30am-1:30pm** in The Loft, next to Chelmsley Wood Library above Asda, there will be a chance for parents to come and talk to the EHCP Service, Educational Psychology, Social Care or Solihull Parent Carer Voice about your child or case. Your child does not need to have an EHCP to come to this and you do not need to book in – you can just turn up, have a cup of tea and a biscuit and talk to the team.

Also, Solihull Parent Carer Voice have recently added information about the EHC Needs Assessment process to their website which includes information from the Children and Families Act and the SEND Code of Practice, as well as explaining the process and what Councils must use to guide their decision making. This can be found at: Resources - Solihull Parent Carer Voice (spcv.org.uk). The next Solihull Parent Carer Voice 'Coffee and Chat' meetings are:

13th December 9am-11am Boston Tea Party, Herbert Road, Solihull

9th January 1pm-2.30pm Bentley Heath Community Centre, Widney Road, Bentley Heath.

If you have any queries, please contact: enquiries@spcv.org.uk

Measles

Further to cases of Measles reported in Birmingham and Solihull, NHS Birmingham and Solihull have issued a leaflet for schools to send to parents about the risks of catching measles as part of everyday interactions. Please click on the link below to access this information.

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/topic_files/UKSOLIHULL/UKSOLIHULL_200/2023/11/29/file_attachments/2698343/English-measles-dont-let-your-child-catch-it-flyer-school-Jan23_2698343.pdf

School Streets at Valley Primary School – Fallowfield Road Site

The School Streets scheme that went to consultation linked to proposed parking restrictions surrounding the Fallowfield Road site has been passed for implementation from the **8th January 2024**. This is a highways scheme and the decision to proceed has been confirmed by the council. If you have any queries about the scheme which is to be introduced in the spring term, please contact highways@solihull.gov.uk

We have been advised that the council's highways team will monitor and should unforeseen problems occur, implementation will be reviewed and amended if necessary.

Poet Workshop

On Wednesday, children across the school enjoyed a workshop with the wonderful poet - Joshua Seigal. He read us some poems, showed us his cat, Bluebell, and helped us to create our own poetry based on our favourite healthy snacks.

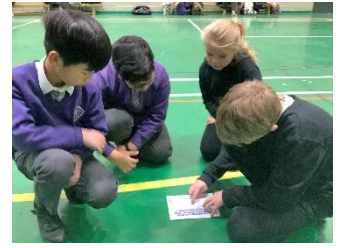
If you want to read more of his poems or look at the books he has written, you can find further information on his website [Joshua](http://JoshuaSeigal.com)

[Seigal | Poet, Performer, Educator](http://JoshuaSeigal.com)



Health Heroes

On Wednesday, our KS2 Playground Leaders and Year 6 Health Heroes were invited to participate in training for their role. They learned the qualities of a leader and practised some games that the Playground Leaders are excited to start delivering on the playground after Christmas! The group represented the school well and collaborated with children from other schools to make a successful learning environment. Miss Stock cannot wait to work with the leaders more and see them shine after Christmas!



Outdoor Explorers Enrichment Group

The children have been working very hard planting trees! They were excited to receive 30 saplings from The Woodland Trust. They used the information sheet to identify the saplings; Wild Cherry, Silver Birch and Rowen. The children then carefully planted them in a corner of our playing field. They hope this will encourage wildlife, increase biodiversity, improve air quality and in the future, provide a shaded woodland area for children to enjoy and take part in even more Forest school activities.



Solihull School Catering

To enable parents to make more informed choices on a daily basis whether their child/children would like a school meal, Solihull Catering have created a new website which provides downloadable menus, and allergy information. To find out more please visit: <https://solihullcateringservices.co.uk/>

Christmas Cards

We politely ask that parents supporting the writing of Christmas cards encourage inclusion of the intended recipient's name and class on the envelope. Children will pass cards to friends in class, but where a friend is in another class, they will use the school post box. Our fabulous house captains will do their very best to sort and deliver cards and value your help! Thank you.

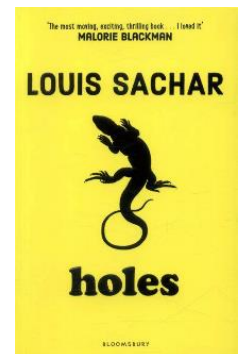
OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

"Holes" by Louis Sachar

This is a mystery novel which weaves between stories from the past and present. Holes moves between sad, cruel, funny and hopeful storylines effortlessly.

You'll enjoy this book if you like Wonder, Matilda or Percy Jackson.

This puzzle of a story will be perfect for those children in Year 5 and 6.



SHARING OUR LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

EYFS

This week in **Nursery**, the children have been talking about and exploring solid shapes. They have been learning the names of the 3D shapes and enjoyed experimenting if they would roll or slide down the ramps that we made!



KS2

After a week of building up their skills, the children in **Year 3** were able to design their own classroom. They thought about 2D shapes, the layout of the room and how to use times tables. They made an order sheet of all the items their classroom would need and they added them up as they had a budget of £400 which they could not go over. After all their planning, they then designed their new, improved classrooms.



The children in **Year 4** have had a fantastic week of learning. In Science they created simple electricity circuits, in order to make a light or buzzer work and then they made a switch which they had to include in their circuit. In their Art lesson the children were investigating three types of watercolour washes – flat, variegated and graded, as they work towards painting their own watercolour in the style of Otto Barth.



PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

Note from the Pastoral Team

On **Friday 8th December**, Valley are collecting food donations and Christmas goodies for people in the local community. **If you could kindly donate any Christmas treats such as chocolates, mince pies or even toiletry sets, we would be very grateful.** Should you require a donation bag for yourselves, an elderly relative or neighbour or if you know a family that would appreciate extra treats this Christmas, please do not hesitate to let the pastoral team know.

Note from the Parent Liaison Lead

We are aware that the majority of our older children now have access to mobile phones and social media/apps. We would like to take this opportunity to please remind parents that all of these apps have age restrictions attached to them and we strongly advise use of devices is monitored.

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 20 November – 24 November 2023

UPPER KS2	Ennis 6	92.3%	Farah 6	94.7%	Simmonds 6	96.3%	Holst 5	94.5%	Lynn 5	94.1%	Webber 5	92.8%
LOWER KS2	Hawking 4	94.4%	Newton 4	91.4%	Sharman 4	94.1%	Hockney 3	93.0%	Lowry 3	92.9%	Riley 3	85.0%
KS1	Churchill 2	83.1%	Nightingale 2	90.4%	Pankhurst 2	93.5%	Bell 1	90.5%	Lee 1	90.4%	Shaw 1	93.8%
EYFS	Aston R	90.0%	Grylls R	93.8%	Peake R	91.4%	Starley N	73.1%	Whittle N	96.7%		

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

DIARY DATES

6 December – Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
7 December – Guitar Concert – Old Lode Lane – 1.30pm
7 December – Reception to visit Elmdon Church
8 December – Food Parcel Donations
11 December – Nursery Christmas Performance – 9am
12 December – Y2 to visit Elmdon Church
13 December – Y3 and Y4 Christmas Performance – 9am and 2.30pm
14 December – Y5 and Y6 Christmas Performance – 9am and 2.30pm
14 December – Reception Christmas Performance – 2.30pm
18 December – Reception Christmas Performance – 9am
18 December – Y1 Christmas Performance – 2.30pm
19 December – Y1 Christmas Performance – 9am

19 December – Y2 Christmas Performance – 2.30pm
20 December – Y2 Christmas Performance – 9am
21 December – Nursery Christmas Parties – AM
21 December – Reception – Y6 Christmas Parties – PM
22 December – House Point Celebrations
22 December – Term Ends
8 January – INSET Day
9 January – Children Return to School
10 January – Christmas Card Recycling Day
15 January – Solihull Reception Admission Deadline for September 2024 Cohort

