



Valley Primary School Newsletter

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

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

Friday
13th
October
2023

NOTE FROM THE ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another exciting and busy week at Valley, especially for our pupil leaders. I was fortunate enough to watch our wonderful eco-warriors at work on the infant site this morning, leading assembly to the school about their litter picking venture. They have been hard at work lately, piecing together their plans and wishes for the school year ahead and working collaboratively to make our school a more environmentally friendly place to be. Watch this space!

Elsewhere in school, our Health Heroes have been organising our upcoming Walk to School week and pupils in our School Council have been planning the bake sale for next week in aid of raising money for our children's charity, Save the Children. We hope you will join us in supporting this important event and our pupil leadership teams.

Thank you for your continued support and have a great weekend everybody,
Mrs Burgess

VALLEY NEWS AND REMINDERS

Eco Warriors

The Eco Warriors ran a school litter picking event this week. They led a short assembly about the problems that can be caused by litter and why it is so important to dispose of waste properly. They then led their classes in litter picking at break time, with the class collecting the most litter winning some extra break time! The Eco Warriors would like to encourage everyone to get involved at home with picking up any litter they see and disposing of their own litter in the right bins. Please send in any photos if you do!



Life Skill Show and Tell Assembly

Next week, each class will have a 'Life Skill Show and Tell' class assembly. This is an opportunity for the children to share evidence of them enjoying, exploring and developing their Autumn 1 Mental Health Management Skills outside of school. For their 'Life Skill Show and Tell' class assembly, children can share evidence:

- uploaded on teams
- brought in from home
- verbally with the class

It's not too late for the children to have a go at the activities uploaded on teams or to think of their own way to boost their mental health!

We look forward to hearing about these in next week's assemblies.

A Life Skill Champion will be chosen from each class, who will receive a gold star badge in the Celebration Assembly on Friday 27th October.

Walk to School Week

Next week Valley will be taking part in 'Walk to School Week' from **16th to 20th October**. During the week we will be asking the children and their parents/carers to leave the car at home, or a distance away from school, and to walk instead. Can you challenge yourself to walk to school every day?

We will be running a competition to find the fittest class in school! Each day the Health Heroes will record how many children walked to school in their class. The class that achieves the highest percentage of pupils walking to school will all receive a certificate and a prize.

We understand that some families need to drive due to living further away from school. We would therefore ask you to 'Park and Stride'. Please park the car further away from school and walk the last 5-10 minutes of your journey for that week. Your child will then be able to record their walk on the diary, take part and be able to support their class.

Author Webinar

Year 4,5 and 6 have joined - alongside thousands of other schools - a webinar by the wonderful Hannah Gold.

During this webinar, Hannah spoke about her latest book, 'Finding Bear' and reminded us of her previous books: 'The Last Bear' and 'The Lost Whale'.

We had a wonderful surprise, when Levi Pinfold, the illustrator of the novels, also joined the assembly.



OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

"Finding Bear" by Hannah Gold

This is the sequel to 'The Last Bear' and the third of Hannah Gold's novels.

In this story, after over a year apart, April and her father return to Svalbard to make sure her friend – the polar bear – is still safe and well. Throughout the journey, April faces her fears and makes a marvellous discovery a polar bear cub!

You'll enjoy this book if you like stories about animals or books written by Kiran Millwood Hargrave or Elle McNicoll

This book is suitable for those readers in Year 4, 5 and 6



SHARING OUR LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

EYFS

Goldilocks has helped the children in **Reception** this week to explore the number three and the smaller numbers that can be combined to create three.



KS1

In Music, **Year 2** have been using glockenspiels to play along with a song. They are learning how to find the notes they need and how to play them in time with the music and with each other.



KS2

The children in **Year 3** used paper plates and a step-to-step guide to create a diva lamp. They decorated the diva lamp using bright colours.



Last week, **Year 5** had a wonderful time visiting the Guru Nank Nishkam temple in Handsworth to further enrich their learning about Sikhism in RE.

The children joined members of the local Sikh community as they paid their respects in the prayer room and listened to the server delivering scripture from The Guru Granth Sahib sacred text.

The children visited other rooms and important parts of the temple, marvelling at the wonderful glass mosaics and tiling. Finally, we all congregated in the temple's dining space, and thoroughly enjoyed savouring a delicious range of Indian dishes.

A fantastic morning had by all at Guru Nank Nishkam temple.



Year 6 have been testing their reaction time in PE this week; they enjoyed challenging themselves to see how far away they could stand from their partner and still catch the ball after only one bounce.



PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

Note from the Pastoral Team

This week we hosted a parent wellbeing workshop where we explored some of the strategies we use with our children to promote mindfulness. We talked about how busy our minds can be and how important it is to make opportunities to pause and reflect. We made calm jars with glitter to represent our busy minds that will settle if we take the time to be mindful.

We had some lovely feedback too...

“What a lovely peaceful workshop - we are so blessed to have this support in school”

“Really thankful the pastoral team are giving the children the skills in life that some of us lack to help or teach our children”

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 2 October – 6 October 2023

UPPER KS2	Ennis 6	88.6%	Farah 6	88.0%	Simmonds 6	91.3%	Holst 5	96.6%	Lynn 5	94.4%	Webber 5	94.8%
LOWER KS2	Hawking 4	92.9%	Newton 4	97.6%	Sharman 4	94.1%	Hockney 3	97.0%	Lowry 3	90.6%	Riley 3	96.0%
KS1	Churchill 2	95.1%	Nightingale 2	96.4%	Pankhurst 2	93.1%	Bell 1	95.5%	Lee 1	96.0%	Shaw 1	83.8%
EYFS	Aston R	96.0%	Grylls R	84.3%	Peake R	89.0%	Starley N	92.6%	Whittle N	94.3%		

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

DIARY DATES

W/C 16 October – Walk to School Week

18 October – Y6 Express Event – Parents invited – 9am

19 October – School Nurse Drop In Toileting Support – Fallowfield Road – 9.00am-9.45am

20 October – Black History Day

20 October – Charity Cake Sale

20 October – PTFA – Autumn Disco – Y1 – Y6

24 October – Parents Evening – 4pm – 6pm

25 October – New Parents Open Morning – Fallowfield Road (September 2024 intake) 9am – 11am

26 October – Parents Evening – 4.30pm – 7pm

27 October – Parent Workshop – Homework Adaptations and Support – TEAMS – 12pm

27 October – House Party

27 October – School Finishes for Half Term

6 November – Children Return to School

7 November – Nursery Topic Engage and Dress Up

7 November – Reception – Y6 Topic Engage

8 November – New Parents Information Evening – Fallowfield Road (September 2024 intake) – 6pm

W/C 13 November – Real Life Maths Week

W/C 13 November – Anti-Bullying Week

W/C 13 November – Bikeability – Y5

14 November – Aston Phonics Workshop – 8.45am

15 November – Grylls Phonics Workshop – 8.45am

15 November – Family Assembly – Anti Bullying Theme – Parents Invited – KS1 – 2.40pm

16 November – Family Assembly – Anti Bullying Theme – Parents Invited – LKS2 – 2.45pm

17 November – Family Assembly – Anti Bullying Theme – Parents Invited – UKS2 – 2.45pm

20 November – Bedtime Stories – Y1 and Y2 – 5pm

21 November – Bedtime Stories – Nursery and Reception – 5pm

22 November – New Parents Open Morning – Fallowfield Road – (September 2024 intake) - 9am

22 November – Twilight Tales – Y5 and Y6 – 5pm

23 November – Peake Phonics Workshop – 8.45am (Change of Date)

23 November – Twilight Tales – Y3 and Y4 -5pm

24 November – Flu immunisations

1 December – PTFA Christmas Fayre – KS1 and KS2 – 4pm -7pm

1 December – School's Nursery Admissions Deadline

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

13 December – Y3 and Y4 Christmas Performance – 9am and 2.45pm

13 December – Y2 to visit Elmdon Church

14 December – Y5 and Y6 Christmas Performance – 9am and 2.30pm

14 December – Reception Christmas Performance – 2.45pm

18 December – Reception Christmas Performance – 9am

18 December – Y1 Christmas Performance – 2.45pm

19 December – Y1 Christmas Performance – 9am

19 December – Y2 Christmas Performance – 2.45pm

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

