



# Valley Primary School Newsletter

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

Friday  
6<sup>th</sup>  
October  
2023

## NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Pupil Leadership Teams have enjoyed starting their meetings this week. They are planning lots of things and it has been wonderful to hear our children's views and see them beginning to show leadership skills by representing others in their class and helping to organise events. Look out for our School Council letter regarding their upcoming charity cake sale and our Health Heroes will be advising you all regarding Healthy Lunchboxes. A great start, well done pupil leaders!

Thank you to our Nursery parents for joining our workshop this week. It is wonderful to see so many parents in school for our various events. This week, we have sent out dates for planned events for next half term, you will note these have gone out earlier than usual following your feedback that you would value more notice. Inevitably though, the longer in advance we plan the more possibility of dates being added or changed. We will do our best to avoid this however please do bear with us if this happens on occasion.

Thank you for your continued support and have a great weekend everybody,  
Miss Milewski

## VALLEY NEWS AND REMINDERS

### A Warm Welcome to Hamilton Group!

We have been delighted to welcome some of our infant children to the Old Lode Lane site this week to participate in our 'Hamilton group'. These children have been working incredibly hard on their communication and sensory skills and are working wonderfully alongside one another as a team. As you know, our classes at Valley are named after influential people and, as such, this group is named 'Hamilton' after the racing driver Lewis Hamilton. Although we are all familiar with Lewis' successes on the racetracks, you may not be aware that he has overcome many challenges with his own needs, including a late diagnosis of dyslexia, in order to achieve his goals. At Valley, we believe inclusion is paramount and we aspire to be as resilient and determined as Lewis in achieving our goals!



### Parents' Evening

In the event that exceptional circumstances mean you are unable to attend your child's parents' evening appointment, please contact your child's class teacher via their class email account. We kindly ask that notice is given by **2pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**. If prior notice is not given by this time/date, we will be unable to accommodate an alternative arrangement via telephone and a written report will be sent as a substitute.

### Uniform

At Valley, we encourage all our children to be proud of their school and wear the uniform smartly and with pride. Please visit our website for our full uniform list <https://www.valleyprimaryschool.co.uk/uniform/>  
May we also take this opportunity to remind all parents/carers that children should only bring in a school pencil case.

### Illnesses

The autumn brings common illnesses that can keep children away from their classmates and learning. The following government blog covers steps you can take now and throughout the coming half term to help protect your family from seasonal illnesses.

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/09/08/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-year/>

In addition, we recommend the following NHS information to support families to determine whether a child is well enough to attend school safely.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

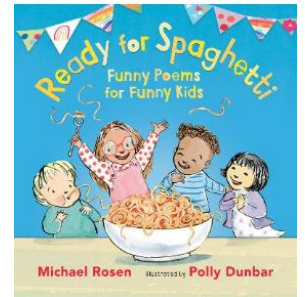
## OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

**"Ready for Spaghetti"** by Michael Rosen

Michael Rosen is a favourite at Valley. We love his rhyming stories and poems. Fizzing with rhythm, energy and laughter, the 30 poems in *Ready for Spaghetti* delight in the details of children's daily routines. Up, up, uppity-up, the first poem announces, while the artwork shows a child leaping out of bed, ready to begin their morning; Hush and a hush, soft and low, chants the final poem, as children snuggle under their blankets after their day's adventures. Full of affectionate observations of young children, which are beautifully continued in Polly Dunbar's warm-hearted pictures, Michael Rosen's poems are ideal for reading aloud with toddlers ... and many grown-ups will soon know them by heart!

You'll enjoy this book if you like authors such as Giles Andreae and Julia Donaldson.

**This book is suitable for those readers in Nursery and Reception.**



## SHARING OUR LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

### EYFS

In **Nursery**, the children have started their Power of Reading sessions this week. They are focusing on the story 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. The children have enjoyed joining in with the repeated refrains and getting active by making big movements in relation to different parts of the story!



This week the children in **Reception** have been learning to read and spell words using their Read Write Inc magnetic letters and boards.

The children 'Fred talked' the words with their teacher and then blended the sounds together to read the words. Well done Reception!



### KS1

In Computing, **Year 2** are learning about algorithms. They practised by creating and following instructions to move around the classroom. They are beginning to program Beebots to follow sequences of instructions.



### KS2

**Lowry 3** enjoyed creating animals from things found in nature after being inspired by the book 'Mouse, Bird, Snake, Wolf'. Now they just have to persuade the gods that their creatures are the best!



On Monday, the **Year 4** children had a fantastic day when a centurion came into school to teach them about how to be a Roman soldier. They took part in training and learned and practised battle formations using swords and shields. Other activities included handling and discussing Roman artefacts and the legacy the Romans left behind which affects our lives today.



## PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

### Note from the Parent Liaison Lead

We would like to remind all parents/carers of children in **Y6** that the closing date for secondary school applications is **31st October**. Solihull residents need to apply via the portal at [www.solihull.gov.uk/pp](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/pp). All other applicants must apply through the local authority that they live within. Any applications received after 31st October will not be processed until after the offers have been made on 1st March.

More information can be found on the website at [www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions)

### Further developing partnerships

The Pastoral Team at Valley are here to support all our families and during a time where the cost of living is ever rising, we are able to provide additional uniform support for those who may need this. We would like to offer all our families the opportunity to receive some uniform from our high quality, preloved items. If you feel you need some additional pieces, we would be happy to assist where possible; size and availability dependent. Please email the family liaison officer on [parentliaisonlead@valley.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:parentliaisonlead@valley.solihull.sch.uk) with your child's name, year/class and size, alongside the items of clothing you would like to request.

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](mailto:parentliaisonlead@valley.solihull.sch.uk)

## ATTENDANCE – W/C 25 September – 29 September 2023

UPPER KS2	Ennis 6	94.7%	Farah 6	<b>95.4%</b>	Simmonds 6	92.5%	Holst 5	90.0%	Lynn 5	92.5%	Webber 5	<b>95.5%</b>
LOWER KS2	Hawking 4	88.2%	Newton 4	<b>97.2%</b>	Sharman 4	90.2%	Hockney 3	<b>98.0%</b>	Lowry 3	94.3%	Riley 3	<b>98.0%</b>
KS1	Churchill 2	89.6%	Nightingale 2	94.8%	Pankhurst 2	<b>98.0%</b>	Bell 1	93.0%	Lee 1	<b>96.4%</b>	Shaw 1	96.3%
EYFS	Aston R	94.5%	Grylls R	<b>95.7%</b>	Peake R	92.4%	Starley N	<b>88.9%</b>	Whittle N	87.8%		

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

## DIARY DATES

13 October – Litter Picking Event

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

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 – Peake Phonics Workshop – 8.45am

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

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

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

