



Valley Primary School Newsletter

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

Friday
8 May 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Next week, our fabulous Year 6 children will do their Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs).

They have all worked incredibly hard and we are very proud of how dedicated the children have been to their final revision this week.

We know some children are a little nervous about this and whilst we know they will all be fine, please can all parents of Year 6 remind the children over the weekend that SATs do not measure everything about a child and there is so much more that they give daily, so many more fabulous successes and so much they have to offer regardless of how well they do next week.

This poem is a lovely one to share with the children, alongside doing something lovely and relaxing over the weekend with the children so they are not tired and are totally ready for Monday.

Miss Milewski

SATs Don't

SATs don't measure sports
SATs don't measure art,
SATs don't measure music,
Or the kindness in your heart.

SATs don't see your beauty,
SATs don't know your worth,
SATs don't see the reasons,
You were put upon this earth.

SATs don't see your magic,
How you make others smile,
SATs don't time how quickly,
You can run a mile.

SATs don't hear your laughter,
Or see you've come this far,
ATs are just a tiny glimpse,
Of who you really are.

So sitting at your table,
With a pencil and your test,
Remember SATs aren't who you are,
Remember you're the best!

VALLEY NEWS AND REMINDERS

School Milk

Children currently receive free school milk until their 5th birthday through the Government school milk scheme. After this point, the entitlement ends. If you are on certain benefits, you may be able to qualify for free school milk after your child reaches the age of 5. Please feel free to contact the school office via email at office@valleyprimary.org if you would like your child to continue receiving school milk.

Reminder Re Class Mixing

As with previous years, teachers will be carefully considering over the coming weeks which children will be in which classes next year. The teaching staff know the children very well and will do their very best to ensure any mixing works for all children.

To feed into this process, we would like to ask that if you have any concerns either from this year or previous years that should be fed into these discussions, we would appreciate you letting your child's class teacher and phase leader know by **Thursday 21st May** at the latest.

This can be via your child's class email address or via the parent liaison email address. We would prefer this via email please, so you can fully explain any circumstances you would like to but if you struggle with using email for any reason, please contact Miss Freeborn (Parent Liaison Lead) and she can help you to do this or discuss with you and then email teachers/phase leaders on your behalf. Please note that mixing classes is a complex task which takes considerable time, so no requests will be considered after 21st May and no changes will be made once classes have been set. It is therefore very important that you contact school over the next few weeks if you have anything in particular you would like taking into account when classes are decided and in particular if classes are mixed.

Change of Future PAN

Due to falling birth rates across the country and particularly in our area, at our request, the Trust is intending to amend Valley Primary School's planned admission number. We propose moving from our current intake of 90 to 60 in September 2026, followed by a revised intake of 75 in September 2027. This phased adjustment ensures that our capacity aligns with future requirements. This change requires formal approval by the DfE. Please look out for the detailed information regarding this which has been sent today via parent pay.

SHARING OUR LEARNING

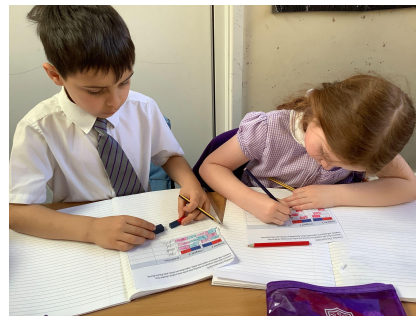
Lower Phase

The children in **Reception** have been busy tracking the progress of their caterpillars surrounding their new topic. They have been recording what they look like at each stage and cannot wait to see them become beautiful butterflies.



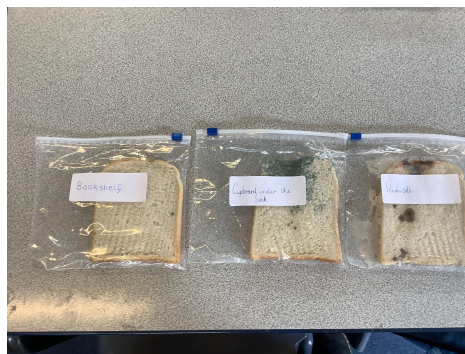
Middle Phase

Year 3 are enjoying their Science topic: Forces and Magnets. They have been thinking about materials that attract magnets and materials that repel.



Upper Phase

Over the last two weeks, **Year 6** have become scientists as they carried out an exciting investigation to discover the best location and conditions for mould to grow on bread. The children explored how changing one factor, known as the independent variable, could affect the growth of mould while keeping other factors constant to ensure a fair test. The class carefully placed three slices of bread in different locations and observed the changes over time, recording their results using scientific vocabulary and detailed observations. They discussed the importance of controlling variables, such as the amount of water added and the type of bread used, to make their investigation reliable. The children especially enjoyed examining the slices at the end of the experiment and were amazed by how much mould had grown in the different conditions. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop scientific enquiry skills, make predictions and draw conclusions from evidence.



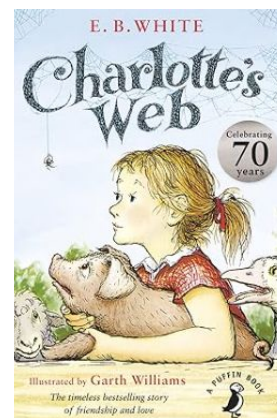
OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

'Charlotte's Web' By E B White

This is the story of a little girl named Fern, who loves a little pig named Wilbur - and of Wilbur's dear friend, Charlotte, a beautiful large grey spider. When Fern's uncle decrees that Wilbur must become bacon, Fern, Charlotte, Templeton the rat and all Wilbur's farmyard friends come up with an ingenious plan to fool the humans, and save their very special pig.

Joyful, funny, and deeply moving, *Charlotte's Web* is a story about the power of friendship, and celebrating what makes everyone special. It is rightly heralded as one of the greatest children's books ever written.

This book is suitable for readers in Middle Phase.



PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

Note to Parents

We would like to remind all parents/carers to please provide a water bottle for class as well as for breaktime and lunchtime. If you require a water bottle, these can be purchased via parent pay at the cost of £1.50.

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 parentliaison@valleyprimary.org

ATTENDANCE – W/C 27 April – 1 May 2026

Well done to the following classes who are this week's winners in their Phase!

LOWER PHASE	Lee 1	98.1%
MIDDLE PHASE	Churchill 2 and Hockney 3	96.2%
UPPER PHASE	Webber 5	98.9%

DIARY DATES

Please join us for these events...

19th May - Y2 and Y3 Express Event - Parents Invited - 2.45pm
20th May - Y4 and Y5 - Express Event - Parents Invited - 2.45pm

Please support your child to participate in...

W/C 18th May - Walk to School Week
19th May - Y1 Express Event
20th May - Y6 Express Event
20th May - Reception Express Event
21st May - World Cultural Diversity Day

Please talk to your children about these events...

W/C 11th May - Y6 Breakfast Club - 8am
W/C 11th May - Y6 SATS
22nd May - End of Term - Reports to go Home
1st June - Inset Day - School Closed

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>