



The Vale Primary School

Beaconsfield Road · Langley Vale · Epsom · Surrey · KT18 6HP

Telephone: 01372 273639 · Facsimile: 01372 279349

Email: info@vale.surrey.sch.uk · Website: www.vale.surrey.sch.uk

Co-Headteachers: Mrs Cathy Browne BA(Hons) PGCE and Mrs Sarah Leyland BEd (Hons) NPQH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th October 2019

Inspiring All

A huge thank you this week to all our parents who have been wearing face masks at drop off and pick up. We know these are exceptional times we are living through and we all want to keep each other safe – so **thank you**.

WEAR YELLOW DAY

It was great to see how everyone embraced #wearyellow day for Young Minds in school on Monday this week.



It is so important to raise awareness and funds for children's mental health and we are so pleased to have taken part.

TERMLY REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Firstly, welcome back to all of our children and families after the Summer break and we welcome the resumption of full time school for all of our year groups after a challenging few months with COVID -19. Also welcome to our new children and families who have joined us this September to embark on your learning journey with The Vale.

The role of the School Standards Board [SSB] is to provide Strategic Leadership to the school to deliver the best possible outcomes and education for all our children. We also recruit, support and challenge the Co-Headteachers, ensure financial viability and compliance with all legal duties. Our Autumn Term Virtual Meeting took place on the 30th September and this is a brief overview to inform parents of what was discussed to benefit the children.

Our focus topic was the Coronavirus and the reintroduction of all our year groups across the school with strict guidance and risk assessments in place for the safety of our children, Staff and Parents. The children have settled back well into their class bubbles coping with a different environment, the social distancing rules and hand washing routine. Governors received an update on the situation from the Co-Headteachers covering staff, pupil and parent wellbeing, safeguarding and the management of health and safety on site. A risk assessment site visit by GLF took place on the 23rd September which was very positive with no changes recommended. We received an update report from the Co Headteachers on the Key priorities for the school this academic year and how



they link to GLF Trusts strategy with our Self Evaluation and Development Plan 2020/2021. Other areas of discussion were the number on role, attendance, the constitution of the SSB as we are currently have 2 parent vacancies, and an update on the changes to the role and responsibilities of the School Standards Board [Governors] from this September. Governors have attended update meetings led by the GLF Board of Trustees advising of the new structure to provide consistency across all GLF schools and have recently completed Safeguarding Training.

On behalf of The Vale Governors I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Staff Team for their hard work and commitment to the school in supporting our children and families and to thank our parents for your support during these challenging times.

Debbie Matthews
Chair of Governors

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Our school photographers will be in school to take photos next **Thursday 22nd October**. We have undertaken a full risk assessment and I'm afraid we will not be offering sibling photos this year due to Covid-19 restrictions and not wanting to mix bubbles within school.

WOW FACTOR

We understand that children may have been unable to access clubs for sports or activities where they may come home with a certificate of achievement or a medal but we value that each of our children have WOW moments which we should celebrate.

With our Vale Learner qualities in mind – being caring, respectful, safe, ready, resilient, reflective and embracing challenge – what WOW factor has your child demonstrated out side of school?

Please send us any photos with a bit of background information about their WOW factor so that we can display their achievement on our Achievements board in school and celebrate them in assembly. You can share this information by either sending a photo and the information to info@vale.surrey.sch.uk or give a paper version to your child to bring into your class teacher.

PTA NEWS

The PTA AGM meeting this week was very well supported so thank you to all those who joined us

virtually. We thank Libby Brook and Danielle Nash who co-chaired the committee last year and all the other committee members and class representatives for all their hard work. The PTA are already looking at how the fantastic fundraising done in half a year can benefit the children - through buying chromebooks for the school for example.

This year we welcome Libby Brook as Chair of the PTA with Danielle Nash as Treasurer and Hannah Root as Secretary. Even in the difficult circumstances we find ourselves in, it was clear that there was a great positivity to continuing 'differently' the great work of the PTA.

Next week sees our Doughnut Sale! I hope you managed to pre-order. Please remember to wear your face masks when you come and collect at school next Friday.



WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Our 'Walk to School Week' is the **19th – 23rd October**. During the week we would like to encourage all our families to either walk or park and stride to school each day. We have a few special days within the week to encourage this walking. On **Monday 19th October** we invite all those who walk or park n stride to wear trainers to school that day. On **Wednesday 21st October** our mission is to clear the car park of family cars and want everyone to try and park n stride or walk. On **Thursday 22rd October** wear shoes that make you happy! (If you are Y1, 2 or 3 and do PE but want to



wear something that isn't trainers – please don't forget to pop them in your bag).

Remember the Friday of this week is also wear something pink day for £1 to raise money for Breast Cancer UK.

SCHOOL WORKS

During half term we have some building works starting on replacing our retaining wall that goes around the school. This piece of work will happen in stages over the year. The first stage will take two weeks and will be replacing one of the walls along the pathway by the Year 4 and 5 classroom in the junior playground. As the work will be continuing into the first week after half term we are going to move Year 5 into the opposite classroom that is on the infant playground side and Year 4 will be moved to the hall for the week. This does mean that the infants for that week will eat their lunches in classrooms in their bubbles as the juniors do now. The junior playground will still be in use that week and all the construction area will be safely contained. There will be some impact on our front car park as a section at the side will be needed for storage so please do keep to our staggered times as this will help and try and walk or park 'n' stride.



PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

We will be holding Autumn Term parent meetings online on **Wednesday 4th November and Thursday 5th November**. We feel it is really important to have these conversations as our children have been through so much this year and it is important for teachers to be able to discuss with you how they are re-engaging with learning at school. A parentmail was sent this week regarding how to book an appointment and these will be live **until Tuesday 20th October** so that we can then set up the Google Meetings and have links for joining them sent out to you.

DANCE WORKSHOPS

Y1-6 will be having South American Dance Workshops in their bubbles on **Monday 19th October**. Could all of those children come to school in their **PE kits** on that day please.

HARVEST

We will be collecting Food for Epsom and Ewell Foodbank this year for Harvest. There is more need than ever for services like this. Due to Covid-19 they have had to implement some guidelines this year and have asked that we only donate items that are on this list:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Sweetcorn | Custard |
| Tinned Spaghetti | Coffee |
| Hot Chocolate | Tinned Fruit |
| Tinned Veg | Ketchup |
| Pasta/beans with meat | Fruit squash |
| Longlife sponge pudding | Tea bags |
| Breakfast cereal (no porridge) | Biscuits |
| Tinned meat | Microwave rice |
| Tinned rice pudding | Powdered milk |
| Tinned fish | Rice |
| Sugar (500g bags) | Packet soup |
| Tinned meat pies | Noodles |
| Tinned potatoes | Milk (UHT) |
| Instant Mash | Pet food |
| Cooking Sauces | Shampoo |
| Dried Pasta n Sauce | Shower gel |
| Male/Female deodorant | Shaving foam |
| Washing up liquid | Washing Powder |
| Hair conditioner | Pump soap |
| Baby shampoo | Baby Wash |

We will have a table outside by the bike racks for the collection of goods in the week of the **19th October -22nd before and after school and Friday 23rd before school only..**

We will hold a school assembly online for Harvest to remember the importance of the festival on Friday 23rd October. It is our hope to record parts of this for parents to see.

The PTA have also kindly offered to provide individual pack Harvest Tea boxes for each of the infants this year to celebrate the day itself.

CELEBRATIONS

A huge well done to these children this week for being celebrated for achievements in learning.

Robin: Zachary and James

Wagtail: Charlie and Rory

Lapwing: Yusef and Freya



Parakeet: Levy-Rose and Dylan
 Sparrow: Abigail and Cameron
 Goldfinch: Jamie and Nicole
 Kestrel: Oscar and Albert

We were really pleased to award Oracy certificates this week to:

Robin: Kitty
 Wagtail: Benji
 Lapwing: Zac
 Parakeet: Dexter
 Sparrow: Olivia
 Goldfinch: Charlie M.W
 Kestrel: Willem and Elise

A huge well done also to Ollie in Y6 for achieving an Oracy certificate last week and apologies that it is belated.

ASSEMBLY

It was great to hear from one of our House Captains in Nijinsky this week: Jaymie at our Friday morning virtual assembly. Well done for being a good role model in speaking in full sentences. In assembly this morning we also discussed why it is important to celebrate Black History Month and promote equality. As a school we want to review the books and texts we use over the coming months, to ensure they reflect the great diverse society we live in. We know our parent community are always really supportive of the PTA/School Amazon Wishlist and class teachers are going to be adding some new requests to the list.

B:IM2020

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

Why do we celebrate Black History Month?

- To promote knowledge and understanding of black history
- To promote equality
- To show us role models
- To celebrate diversity

CLASS DOJO RESULTS

The House Captains will be combining this week's and next week's points and we will announce then the winning house for this half term who will earn a mufti day next week. Just one week left!

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN – Our 'Words of the Week' this week are:

KS1 Word of the Day

Word of the Day

Word of the Day : **engulf** (verb)

Definition : surround or cover completely / swallow whole / overwhelm.

Dark brown gravy engulfed the juicy chips.

Synonym : surround.

Antonym : expose.

Challenge : Use WOD in a description.



@VocabularyNinja



'Words unlock the doors to a world of understanding...'

KS2 Word of the Day

Word of the Day

Word of the Day : **capitulate** (verb)

Definition : to stop fighting an enemy and admit defeat.

The army was close to capitulating after the siege.

Synonym : surrender.

Antonym : resist.

Challenge : Use WOD in a multi-clause sentence.



@VocabularyNinja



'Words unlock the doors to a world of understanding...'

We ask you to talk about the words and what they mean and practise using them in different sentences in conversations.

RECOGNITION TARGET

Next week we are looking across the school to learn about and recognise the behaviour for learning target:

To work hard

Please do talk about what this means and what this behaviour might look like with your children.

ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 12.10.2020 September 2020

Robin Class	97.83%
Wagtail Class	91.67%
Lapwing Class	97.73%
Parakeet Class	100%



Sparrow Class	98.75%
Goldfinch Class	93.64%
Kestrel Class	9.78%
Whole School Attendance for Week	96.34%
Whole School Attendance for Term to date	96.95%

The classes who have won our virtual attendance horses this week are Robin and Parakeet.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

We wish you all the best as you make your decisions and remind you that your applications will need to be made to **Surrey Admissions by 31st October**. This can be done on the Surrey admissions website:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary>

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to talk through any of this with one of us. We are aware that there are quite a few of our Year 6 families yet to submit their application.

SCHOOL VIRTUAL TOUR

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are not able to hold our open morning events for prospective families as we would ordinarily do. We are holding some small tours for groups of no more than 6 which are advertised on our school webpage and need booking in to through the school office. These will all be held outside of the school day. In addition to this we have created a virtual school tour that can also be found on our school webpage (<https://www.vale.surrey.sch.uk/>). Please do let others know.

School Tours for prospective families

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we will be completing these differently this year. We have a limit on 6 adults for each group visit and face masks will be required. If you would like to book a place on one of our visits please phone the school office on 01372 273639 or email: info@vale.surrey.sch.uk

Dates

Saturday 26th September	10am - 11am FULLY BOOKED
Wednesday 7th October	6.30pm - 7.30pm FULLY BOOKED
Wednesday 21st October	6.30pm - 7.30pm
Saturday 7th November	10am - 11am
Wednesday 18th November	6.30pm - 7.30pm
Wednesday 2nd December	6.30pm - 7.30pm

These dates are provisional and will happen should there be no change to current guidance.

We have created a virtual tour below to give you a flavour of the school in action.

Surrey Adult Learning.
Free parenting courses to help you create a better family life.

Are you worried about your child's behaviour or development or see your child struggling at school?

Do you sometimes feel anxious and would like to be more involved in their school life?

Perhaps Maths isn't your strong point or English isn't your first language or you find phonics puzzling and you need some help to understand what your child is learning.

Family Learning provides **free** courses and workshops to help you navigate school life and give support where your child is struggling.

Because learning together is fun - and



right now it couldn't be more important.

Open to parents, carers and grandparents. **Spaces are available now** on a range of topics including Christmas workshops. Pre-booking via our website is essential.

- EAL - English as an Additional Language
- Maths – learning your child's curriculum
- Exploring good behaviour strategies
- Understanding children's behaviour
- Yoga for anxiety
- Cooking together; Scrummy yummy soups, Merry Muffins
- Skills to encourage mini scientists
- Storytelling workshops; Aliens love Santa Claus

www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning
email Family.Learning@surreycc.gov.uk

COVID19

We continue to ask that all parents are vigilant in ensuring that their children do not attend school for 10 days if they develop any of the following Covid symptoms:

- A high temperature (38C or higher)
- A new persistent cough
- A loss of (or change in) their sense of taste or smell

Children must also isolate at home for 14 days if any of their household have symptoms or have had a positive Covid-19 test.

If your child has symptoms, please keep them at home and arrange for a Covid test by calling 119 or booking a test on the NHS website here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Please be aware that if your child has any of the above symptoms they should not return to school unless they have completed the isolation period or received a negative Covid test. A GP's diagnosis without a test is not sufficient for this purpose.

Thank you to all those who are following these guidelines and we do appreciate that attaining a test at the moment is not easy but we must ask you to be patient.

If you need to contact either Mrs Leyland or myself when the school office is closed with a test result, please do not hesitate to on –

Mrs Leyland: co-head@vale.surrey.sch.uk

Mrs Browne: head@vale.surrey.sch.uk



FACEBOOK PAGE/TWITTER

Thank you for following and liking our Facebook Page and Twitter feed. We continue to post/tweet



and review and monitor frequently. We want to share and celebrate as much as we can and keep it as current as possible. Search for 'The Vale Primary School' and our icon is our woodpecker logo, with a white background or @thevaleprimary. Our Twitter account is @ValePrimarySch.

04.06.21		
25.06.21	INSET	
16.07.21	Term ends	
19.07.21 – 21.07.21	INSET	

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

Cathy Browne and Sarah Leyland
Co-Headteachers

DATES

(New dates highlighted in blue)

Autumn Term Dates		
19.10.20	Dance Workshops – please wear PE Kits to school Y1-6	All day
19.10.20 – 23.10.20	Harvest Donations are welcome outside front of school	
19.10.20 – 23.10.20	WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK	
19.10.20	Wear trainers to school for walking or parking 'n' striding	All day
21.10.20	School Tours – new pupils	6.30 – 7.30pm
21.10.20	Let's clear the car park day by walking or parking 'n' striding	
22.10.20	Wear shoes that make you happy!	All day
22.10.20	School Photos	
23.10.20	Wear Pink Day - £1 for Breast Cancer	All day
26.10.20 – 30.10.20	HALF TERM	
02.11.20	Back to school	
7.11.20	School Tours – new pupils	10am – 11am
16.11.20 – 20.11.20	Anti-Bullying Week	
18.11.20	School Tours – new pupils	6.30 – 7.30pm
02.12.20	School Tours – new pupils	6.30 – 7.30pm
18.12.20	Terms ends	
	Christmas Holidays	
04.01.21	INSET	
05.01.21	Term starts	
15.02.21 – 19.02.21	HALF TERM	
22.02.21	Back to school	
01.04.20	Term ends	
	Easter Holidays	
19.04.21	Term starts	
31.05.21 –	HALF TERM	

