



The Vale Primary School

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th December 2020

Inspiring All

The weather may have turned wetter this week but it doesn't seem to have dampened the children's enjoyment or enthusiasm for some of the learning they have been up to this week. Thursday was an incredibly wet day and every class had a wet lunch play so stayed inside their bubble classrooms. It was a delight to be on duty to see the way the children engaged and interacted with each other. Many played board games or created posters. Year 6 had a bit of a dance off in the classroom. It was clear they were having fun and there was a great demonstration of good collaboration and teamwork skills.



As we have moved into December, there is definitely a feeling of Christmas throughout the school. The children have been practising and are looking forward to next week when they will record their songs and lines for their Christmas shows. Can we remind all infants to come in dressed in a white t-shirt and dark trousers, leggings or a skirt on Monday 7th December.

We are very grateful to the Healy family who have donated two Christmas trees brought by 'the elves' on Wednesday night to have outside the front of school. This is such a lovely way for us to be able to share some of the Christmas spirit going on in school with you at drop off and pick up. If your family would like to add a waterproof decoration to the tree – please do and we can make these a real focal point of our school community.

Our activities towards Christmas begin to start next week and there are more details later in the newsletter.

WOW WALK TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE

It was fantastic this week to be able to celebrate all those who have been actively walking to school. 113 badges were given out for the month of November and 61% active journeys undertaken. Well done.



SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE



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There has been lots of investigating and exploring in our Science lessons across the school in the past couple of weeks. The children are really developing their knowledge and understanding of the world around them.

Year 2 have been exploring different materials and investigating how they can group and compare them.



Year 3 have been investigating different soils and describing their different characteristics. They've been developing their observation skills and understanding how you use a table to record your findings.



Year 6 have been learning about light and investigating how light lets us see colour. They have even been making their own periscopes to really consider how light travels.



RSE CONSULTATION (Relationships and Sex Education)

Thank you to those who attended our school zoom on Monday with Ms Amos and Mrs Leyland. We hope you found it informative and it was a good forum to answer any questions. We know we have definitely taken some actions away from the meeting so thank you for your participation.

PTA NEWS

We are really excited this week that through the funds raised by the PTA, we have now got 15 new chrome books all set up and ready to go in school. It is wonderful to be able to see all your generosity turn into something that is so beneficial to us as a school and the children. Thank you.

We are also delighted to announce the winner of the Gingerbread House Decorating Competition. All of the designs were amazing and it was a very difficult task for our school cook to decide upon the winner. All of those who participated will receive a sweet treat and the winning hamper is going to Jenson and Lily who together created this amazing house. Well done!



PTA EVENTS NEXT WEEK



Next week:

Raffle Tickets are still on sale!

There are a selection of fantastic Christmas Treat Hampers here waiting to be won.



Tuesday 8th December – Infant Secret Santa

This will happen in school during the school day for Robins, Wagtail and Lapwing Class. We ask the children to bring in £5 (in a named envelope/purse) to spend if they wish, in the Secret Santa store to buy a gift for a loved one. This will then be brought home all wrapped up and ready for giving.

Wednesday 9th December – Matchbox Game

One of the very popular stalls at our school fayres is the teacher run Matchbox game stall. Mrs Leyland and Mrs Browne will be inviting the bubbles separately during the school day to come and have a go on the stall. This stall is £1 a go and again the children can bring this in in a named envelope. Every go wins either:

- A multi day on Friday 11th December
- An extra playtime
- A sweet treat
- 5 dojo points for 'being lucky'!

Thursday 10th December – Junior Secret Santa

This will happen in school during the school day for Parakeets, Sparrow, Goldfinch and Kestrel Class. We ask the children to bring in £5 (in a named envelope/purse) to spend in the Secret Santa store to buy a gift for a loved one. This will then be brought home all wrapped up and ready for giving.

Friday 11th December – Christmas Sweet, Hot Chocolate and Reindeer Food Cones Sale. This will happen at school pick up and be an opportunity to pick up some lovely Christmas treats. *Please respect all our social distance rules.*

GETTING OUT AND ABOUT

Year 6, 5 and 2 had great walks this week. It was wonderful to get off site and out in the village to support local geography learning for Year 2 and up into the woodlands and to the great statues of Remembrance for Year 5 and 6.



It has proved so popular that Year 3 and 4 will be completing a woodland walk on Monday 9th December and Year 1 will be completing their local geography walk around the village on Wednesday.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Please don't forget to put your order in for Christmas Lunch if you want it this year.

CHRISTMAS MENU

MAIN COURSE

Roast British Chicken
with Mini Cumberland Sausage
or
Quorn Sausage Christmas Cracker (V)
served with
Sage & Onion Stuffing, Roast Potatoes,
Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy

DESSERT

Apple Festive Muffin

ORDER YOUR FESTIVE MENU!

Infants Wednesday 16th December
Juniors Thursday 17th December

Free for Reception & KS1, £2.40 for KS2



CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY

On **Thursday 17th December** all the children in school will be having Christmas parties in their bubbles in the afternoon. The PTA are gerously providing some party food and the teachers will organise the fun! The children can come to school this day in their Christmas outfits/jumpers/party clothes/hats. There are however no changes to our normal policy on earrings, sensible shoes you can run and play in or hair being tied back for hygiene and safety reasons.

CELEBRATIONS

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

Robin: Aryana and Amara

Wagtail: Ronnie and Casper

Lapwing: Haydn and 'The Whole Class'

Parakeet: Dexter and Lyla

Sparrow: Jacob and Grace

Goldfinch: Alex P and Ava

Kestrel: Essey and Lottie

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

Robin: James

Wagtail: Isla

Lapwing: Isla

Parakeet: George

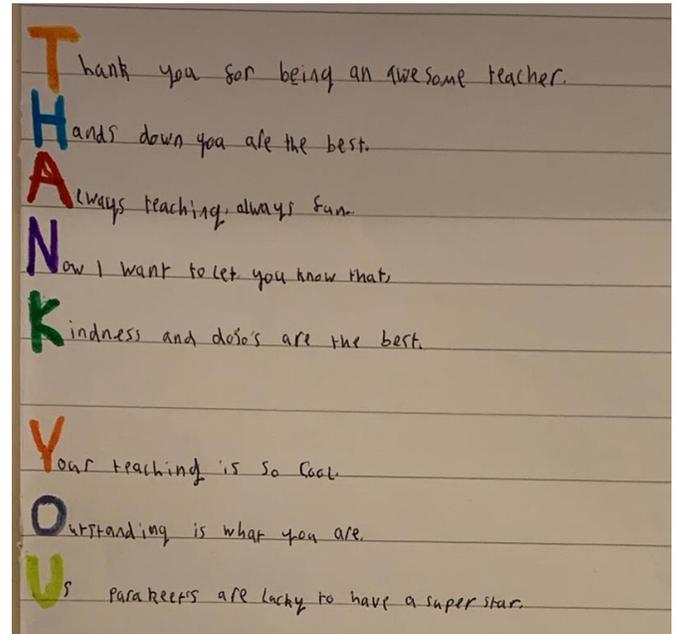
Sparrow: Sam

Goldfinch: Charlie D

Kestrel: Luke



Mrs Browne, Mrs Leyland and all the children in school kept their eyes open again this week for adults showing Vale Values consistently. We were looking for amazing staff role-models. This week we are celebrating: **Ms Amos this week for Co-Headteacher's Hot Chocolate.** I think you'll agree this poem says it all. It was great to hear also from a range of children that: "She tries so hard to make learning fun!"



CLASS DOJO RESULTS

Well done everyone this week – we could see you trying really hard to achieve Dojos.

Diomed	Nijinsky	Hyperion	Shergar
264	295	245	326

Well done Shergar!

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 : **pretend** (verb/adj)

Definition : act as if something is real / engage in imaginative play.

*The reception pupils **pretended** to be the bear.*

Synonym : impersonate.

Antonym :

Challenge : Use WOD in a simple sentence.



KS2 Word of the Day

Word of the Day

(noun) (adjective)

Word of the Day : euphoria / euphoric

Definition : feeling of extreme happiness.

Euphoria spread around the school like a wild fire! The year 5 pupils had won the national poetry competition!

Synonym : delight.

Antonym : misery.

Challenge : Use WOD in a statement.



- 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

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 show reading stamina

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

ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 30.11.2020

Robin Class	97.54%
Wagtail Class	99.56%
Lapwing Class	96.67%
Parakeet Class	100%
Sparrow Class	95.71%
Goldfinch Class	96.36%
Kestrel Class	92.22%
Whole School Attendance for Week	96.87%
Whole School Attendance for Term to date	96.66%

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

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)





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.

DATES

(New dates highlighted in blue) PTA dates in green

Autumn Term Dates		
7.12.20	Y3 and 4 Woodland Walk	
8.12.20	Infant Secret Santa – children invited to bring money to school to buy Secret Santa presents for their loved ones	
9.12.20	Y1 Village Walk	
9.12.20	Teacher's Matchbox Game – children invited to bring money into school to play matchbox game at bubble allotted time.	
10.12.20	Junior Secret Santa – children invited to bring money to school to buy Secret Santa presents for their loved ones	
11.12.20	Sweet cones/Hot Chocolate Cones/Reindeer Food etc sale at school pick up	
15.12.20 and 16.12.20	Guess the weight of the cake! At school pick up	
17.12.20	Hamper Raffle Draw	
17.12.20	Infant Tombola Draw	

	at school pick	
17.12.20	Class Bubble Christmas Parties with Tea provided by the PTA – wear Christmas outfit	
18.12.20	Junior Tombola Draw at school pick up	
18.12.20	Terms ends Staggered Finish YR and Y6 – 1.40pm Y1 and Y5 – 1.50pm Y2 and Y4 – 2pm Y3 – 2.10pm	
	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 – 04.06.21	HALF TERM	
25.06.21	INSET	
16.07.21	Term ends	
19.07.21 – 21.07.21	INSET	

Have a good weekend.

Cathy Browne and Sarah Leyland
Co-Headteachers

