

COMIC RELIEF – FRIDAY 24TH MARCH: CHILDREN MAY WEAR RED CLOTHES AND NOSES TO SCHOOL IN RETURN FOR A DONATION FOR COMIC RELIEF.

Kindness Week: Our Anti-bullying Ambassadors are leading a number of assemblies over the year with a focus on creating a culture which does not tolerate bullying and unkindness. On Monday they led an assembly to launch our kindness week which will be throughout next week. The children will be focusing on ways to be kind and show kindness. Each day they will try to carry out random acts of kindness. Please encourage them by talking about how they can show kindness in school and at home.

Online safety: Last week Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board held a conference with the theme of keeping children safe on line. Key advice was:

- Parents and teachers need to be aware of the potential dangers to children and then teach them how to navigate these dangers safely in the same way we teach children Road Safety.
- Parents and teachers should model good behaviours when using social media if we want our children to use the internet wisely and respectfully and stop cyber bullying.
- Filters and parental controls are essential when children are very young but as they get older it is important for children to access media on line but with clear guidelines about how to assess risk and respond to mistakes by talking to parents and adults they trust.
- Parents need to be aware that not all apps and games are safe for unsupervised access for young children because it may not be possible to stop unsuitable strangers from accessing the child who is using the app or game.
- Children should learn not to share personal information without parental permission.

We appreciate your help in supporting your child.

Attendance Incentive: This will be awarded to a child who has achieved 100% attendance during the term. All children with 100% are put in a hat and the name is drawn out. Our winner will be announced on next week's Thursday Note.

A reminder that our registers are checked by our Education Attendance Officer, Sara Holmes and those with attendance below the 95% threshold and high unauthorised absences including unauthorised term time leave, will be referred to the Education Attendance Service which may result in a Penalty Warning Notice and a fine. Term time absence can only be authorised in very exceptional circumstances (which does not include annual holidays) and usually only if a child's attendance is generally good.

Get Growing Club: As many of you are aware we have a school allotment at Welshmill and they will be running their popular Get Growing club again. This is open to parents from either Vallis First School or St Louis' School. The first session is Thursday 20th April. 12.45 – 2.45pm. Sessions will run throughout the growing season.

Further details can be found here:

<http://fromeallotments.co.uk/2017/03/get-growing-2017-a-free-growing-club-for-parents-and-carers-at-vallis-first-and-st-louis-primary-schools/>

Volunteers needed: If you have any spare time and would like to come into the school as a volunteer to help the children with various activities, please come to the School Office for further details.

Kilve trip: Can we remind Year 3 parents that you only have 14 more school weeks left to pay for your child's residential trip. Please come to the School Office if you need a payment card to spread the cost.

Cake Sales: Mars Class made £ in their cake sale, well done Mars Class. It is the turn of Galaxy Class tomorrow. Please make or buy some cakes for them to sell. Thank you ☺

New Summer Menu: Please find the new Summer Menu on the reverse side of this Thursday Note. If you would like your child to continue having hot school meals, please circle or highlight your preference and return the menu to the School Office by **Monday 27th March**. If your child is in KS2 and you pay for their meals, please note that payment needs to be made a week in advance. Meals cost £2.40/day, £12.00/week and £64.80/half term. Please make any cheques made payable to Somerset County Council.