

Vallis First School Thursday Note



Summer Term - Thursday 27th April 2017 www.vallisfirstschool.org

INSET Day reminder: Tuesday 2nd May School will be closed for our children as we will be having an In Service training day.

School Trips and Parental contributions: As part of our curriculum topics, teachers plan lots of opportunities for children to make good use of the free community resources and walk around the surrounding area to enhance and support their learning. Sometimes a topic lends itself to a visit further afield involving a coach or an activity taking place locally which has a cost.

On last week's Thursday Note we talked about parental contributions to school trips and activities and this week we would appreciate your response to the question of costs. You will be aware in the media of the reductions to delegated budgets to schools and you will not be surprised that this has decreased the opportunities all schools are able to offer free of charge. During recent enquiries into costs of trips, teaching staff have discovered that trips can cost as much as £10-15 once you include the cost of the coaches. Our VSA commit to subsidising each Key Stage trip and as a result apart from our KS2 trip to the Roman Baths last year which cost £11, we have been able to keep costs to £10 and under. (Free School Meal and Pupil Premium funded children pay half the cost as the other half is paid by the grant.) Please note that the school cannot legally make any profit from school trips - they have to be offered at cost price.

Please would you complete the slip below to let us know your view on the amount of money you would be prepared to pay to enable your child to access additional trips and activities.

Please return completed slips to the School Office by Friday 5th May. Thank you.

VSA News: Please see information overleaf.

KS1 Drumming: KS1 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their drumming day this week, but unfortunately we have a shortfall of £80 in donations towards the cost of this experience. If you have not yet contributed £2 for your child, please could you do so asap? Thank you.

Parent Volunteers: Our Governors (who are volunteers themselves) have suggested that we ask parents to sign up to offer our school help when small works are needing to be done. These works may be anything from gardening to putting up a shelf etc. If you have a particular skill (ie. carpentry, gardening etc) or just have some spare time and are willing to offer an hour or two to us,

please let the School Office know. Thank you ©

Bank support staff vacancies: From time to time we need cover for support staff absence either during the teaching sessions or at lunchtimes and so we like to keep a bank of casual hours staff on our books. If you have good written and spoken English and good Maths skills and would like to be interviewed to join our bank of support staff please pick up a job description and application pack from the School Office. All school posts require an enhanced disclosure through the Disclosure and Barring Service and a medical declaration as well as checking references. Your application form would need to include all information about your previous work or voluntary history as well as the reasons why you think you would be a suitable

Cake Sales: Milky Way Class made £37 in their cake sale, well done Milky Way Class. It is the turn of Satellite Class on Friday 28th April. Please make or buy some cakes for them to sell. Thank you ©

Dates for your Diary 2017
Friday 28th April - Satellite Class Cake Sale
Tuesday 2nd May - INSET DAY

Parental Contributions to School Trips and Activities - Summer 2017 (Please circle your two responses)

I am prepared to contribute a maximum of £10 (£5.00 if entitled to Free School Meals) to enable my child's class to go on a school trip or activity. YES/NO

I am prepared to contribute a maximum of £15 (£7.50 if entitled to Free School Meals) to enable my child's class to go on a school trip or activity. YES/NO