

# VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

## **Message from the Headteacher**

Our family learning events in school this week have been great and it feels like a real step forward in being allowed to invite you all back into school to share the learning of your children. The atmosphere in the classrooms on Monday and Tuesday was lovely as was seeing so many adults and children working together being Team Ants – thank you all for giving up some of your day to come in and support the children; I know they loved it.

Our Harvest Celebration is still planned for Tuesday morning at Holy Trinity and you are all very welcome – we plan to start at 9:30am.

Many companies like to make links with their community and often they allow their staff to volunteer in the local area for community type projects. If the company you work for and one that you know of would like to build some community links, then can you please let me know through the school office as I would be very keen to talk to them about some ideas we have at Vallis.

I mentioned in an earlier newsletter this term about parking in and around the school at drop-off and pick-up times; please be aware that the local authority are now regularly patrolling the roads near us and are issuing tickets so please if you can, walk to school or if not, please park considerately and legally.

We are experiencing a high level of staff absence at the moment which is a combination of people isolating and other illnesses. We have been able to cover classes to date but I would like to remind everyone that we are still in a pandemic and there is still the possibility that we could have to transfer learning back onto Google Classrooms for a short period of time for certain classes or year groups if I am not able to staff the school in a safe way.

Our Star Powerful Learners this week are: All of Moon class; Theo from Jupiter; Taya-Rose from Saturn; Elsie from Neptune; Clara from Apollo; Lacey from Galaxy; Alma from Milky Way and Esme from Mars. Well done to all of you.

Nick Firkins

Headteacher

## **Reminders**

- The Harvest Festival celebrations are taking place at 9.30am Holy Trinity Church on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October. All families welcome – please could we ask that you wear a mask in the church due to the current increase in COVID cases?
- School photos are taking place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October. If you would like sibling photos, please come to the school office at 8.30am next Thursday.
- KS2 are holding their Fantastic Mr Fox Film Night on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Please return your child's permission slip if you have not already done so. This will be confirmed on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> if it will go ahead due to current staff absences.

### A Week in Pictures

Pupils at Vallis First School had great fun last week supporting the Travel Challenge. Despite the weather lots managed to walk, scoot or cycle to school in an attempt to be the most active school in Frome. We were also really lucky to have a fantastic lunchtime dance session led by Mojo Moves for KS1 & KS2. Pupils were great at picking up the dance moves and even Mr Firkins joined in! On Thursday Frome Town Council arranged for their Smoothie Bike to come in to enable pupils to be active whilst making a yummy drink - needless to say it was very popular! A big thank you to both groups for donating their time and also to all of you for supporting our healthy travel to school push. We'll let you know if we won the competition!



### Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Celebration at Holy Trinity Church – 9.30am

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October – School Photos

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October – KS2 film night, 5 - 7pm - tbc

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Parents' Evening Years 1 - 4

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Parents' Evening Years 1 – 4

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – INSET day

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November – VSA Bingo - tbc

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Christmas Performance – 1.30pm

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - KS1 Christmas Performance – 9.30am

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Foundation Stage Christmas Performance – 1.30pm

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Carol Service at Trinity Church – 5pm

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Foundation Stage Performance – 1.30pm