

# VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

I hope you all had a lovely half term and didn't get blown away in the strong winds before we broke up. The school suffered some damage to the roof of the EYFS storage building in their playground but otherwise the school buildings weathered the storm well.

As announced by the Government during half term, COVID-19 restrictions have been removed across the board and most of the remaining guidance is recommended rather than a legal requirement. Within school, the day feels much like normal and the children are now having lunch and break times with each other. We have re-started assemblies again this week but at the moment, we are sticking to Key Stage ones and will revert to whole school ones after Easter. I would reassure you that although most restrictions have been lifted, COVID-19 is still around and we are continuing to monitor outbreaks in the school and will act accordingly if needed. We are not asking adults to wear masks in and around school but anyone who wishes to do so is very welcome to.

World Book Day yesterday proved very popular with the children and their costumes looked amazing. There was such a variety across the school and it was lovely to hear the children talk about their characters in such detail and with so much knowledge. Please take a look at the gallery on our website for pictures.

This weekend sees the annual Window Wonderland in Frome. I have already seen some in windows and they look great. The children have linked our windows with the Frome Kindness week and they will look wonderful at night all lit up. Town trails are available online if you are interested in seeing the displays around the town.

I think we are all very aware of the appalling events in Ukraine at the moment and we all want to do something to show our support to Ukraine during these terrible times. Many schools across Somerset are raising money for the Red Cross who help countries across the world at times of crisis and I know they are busy supporting the people in Ukraine at the moment. All your contributions today will be sent to them to help in their effort. At times like this, children can often ask many and varied questions about what is going on and will often feel anxious and scared about things they may see or hear about. Staff in every class have a number of resources to help them talk to the children in circle times in a sensitive way so as to inform but not scare. There are already many resources available online if you are unsure about how to respond to your children's questions but if you have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher - see separate box on this newsletter for some links.

Due to the school being closed on the last Friday of term, we have no Star Powerful Learners to celebrate this week so this will start again next week.

Nick Firkins

Headteacher

## Red Cross Muffi Day

The children came into school today wearing Muffi which is in aid of the Red Cross appeal who will be helping and supporting the people in Ukraine. We raised an amazing £626 which will go toward this. A BIG thank you to all the parents, carers and children for donating to this cause.

[https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/?utm\\_source=1%20March%202022%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/?utm_source=1%20March%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)



[Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation.](https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/) - The Education Hub

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is distressing and concerning, and we understand children and young people may have questions or be seeking reassurance. We know that schools are well placed to talk to pupils about the images they are seeing and ...

[educationhub.blog.gov.uk](https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk)

Please click onto the link above for support and guidance on how to talk to children about the Russian invasion of Ukraine

## **Dates for your Diary**

- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April – last day before Easter Holidays – finishing at 3pm**
- **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Back to school**

Merry  
Christmas