

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 25th March 2022

Last Friday we invited Jackdaws Music Trust into our school who we have worked with now for a number of years. Over the past few weeks, they have been working with Saturn class on their music project 'Year of Klezmer' and on Friday morning they worked and performed with KS1 and KS2 in an interactive workshop. Klezmer is Jewish music that originated in Eastern Europe, in countries such as Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova and Rumania. A hundred years ago these countries had big Jewish populations who spoke Yiddish and used to play klezmer for weddings and celebrations that involved a lot of dancing. Saturn class really enjoyed working with the musicians and they did a fantastic performance to the school.

Teamwork is one of our focuses in school as part of our powerful learners and this week I have seen some lovely examples of the children working well together. Galaxy class showed great teamwork in small groups on some science activities on Monday and outside at lunchtime, I've seen lots of children interacting well.

Although most restrictions regarding COVID have been eased, many schools are continuing to experience staffing issues and we are unfortunately no exception. We are endeavouring to keep all classes open by redeploying staff but there may still be an occasion where we need to put a class onto remote learning for a short period. We will try to give as much warning as possible if this happens and communication will be sent via email and text.

Our Star Powerful Learners this week were: Hollie from Sun; Alfie from Moon; Eddie from Jupiter; Tyler from Saturn; Joe from Neptune; Derek from Apollo; Logan from Galaxy, Icarus from Milky Way and Elodie from Mars. Well done to all of you.

Hope you are all enjoying the lovely sunny weather - have a great weekend.

Nick Firkins

Headteacher

WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE WEEK 2022

28TH MARCH - 3RD APRIL 2022

It is World Autism Acceptance week from 28th March – 3rd April.

Please click on the link below to find some helpful resources.

<https://en-gb.padlet.com/SASSBathnes/WAAW22>

Dates for your Diary

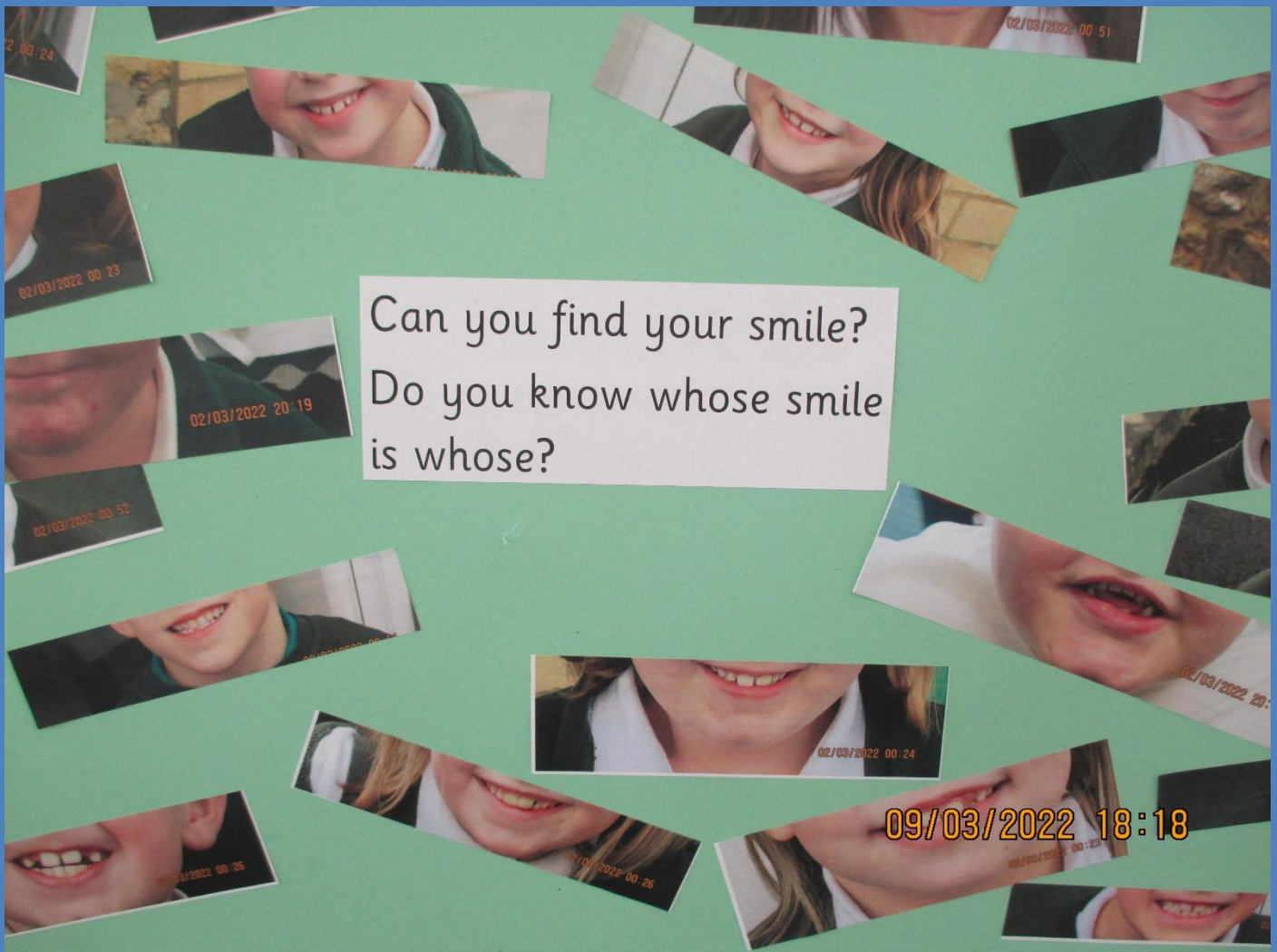
- **Wednesday 6th April – Whole School Parents' Evening – (early)**
- **Thursday 7th April – Whole School Parents' Evening – (late)**
- **Friday 8th April – last day before Easter Holidays – finishing at 3pm**
- **Monday 25th April – INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 26th April – Back to school**
- **Thursday 1st September 2022 – INSET DAY**
- **Friday 2nd September 2022 – INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 3rd January 2023 – INSET DAY**
- **Monday 17th April 2023 – INSET DAY**
- **Friday 26th May 2023 – INSET DAY**

If anyone has collections of natural materials such as pine cones, feathers, pebbles, shells, or conkers etc. that they don't need anymore, please could they donate them to the Forest School. We are doing natural art sessions in our Forest School Fundays soon and will need lots of natural materials. They can be given to Mrs Powrie in Saturn class or left at the school office for collection.

Parent/Carer/Family Helpers

As Spring is arriving, we would like to arrange a day to tidy and refresh our school site. There will be lots of outside jobs to do including sweeping, painting, repairing etc. If you are able to spare some time please let the school office know of your availability – whether it is for an hour or a whole day 😊

The children in Neptune Class played 'Guess whose Smile is whose' as part of Kindness Week. Can you guess whose smile is whose?



Kindness week continues...

The children in Satellite Class made some lovely postcards to send to the children and families from Ukraine who are arriving in Poland. Please see the link below for pictures of the postcards.

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/FromeParents/permalink/5640515032632396/>