

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

22nd September 2023

In this week's newsletter:

Dates for your Diary

Message from our Headteacher

Flu Immunisations

Eco Council

Raincoat reminder

VSA News

Purple Elephant

Local Community Information



Dates for your Diary

Next Week

- ◆ Monday 25th September—Open Classrooms @ 3:05pm
- ◆ Friday 29th September—MUFTI DAY in aid of the VSA Fun Day (see further in the newsletter for more details).

Looking ahead

- ◆ Tuesday 3rd October—Headteacher Coffee Morning @ 9am in the Community Room
- ◆ Friday 6th October—School Photos
- ◆ Friday 6th October—VSA Fun Day @ 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the top playground
- ◆ Tuesday 10th October—Harvest Celebration @ 9:30am at Holy Trinity Church
- ◆ Thursday 12th October—SLT Drop in Session with Nick Firkins & Kirsten Malloy @ 9:00am—11:00am
- ◆ Friday 13th October—SLT Drop in Session with Nick Firkins & Adam Summers @ 9:00am—11:00am
- ◆ Tuesday 17th October—SEN Coffee Morning @ 9:00 in The Community Room
- ◆ Wednesday 18th October—KS1 Family Learning Event @ 9am—10am
- ◆ Friday 20th October—Mufti day in aid of Purple Elephant
- ◆ Friday 20th October—VSA Pumpkin Trail @ 5:30pm to 7:00pm in the Vallis First School local area
- ◆ HALF TERM—Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October

Advance Notice

- ◆ Monday 11th December—KS1 Christmas Performance @ 1:30pm in the School Hall
- ◆ Tuesday 12th December—KS1 Christmas Performance @ 9:30am in the School Hall
- ◆ Tuesday 12th December—EYFS Christmas Performance @ 1:30pm in the School Hall
- ◆ Tuesday 12th December—KS2 Carol Concert @ 5:30pm at Holy Trinity Church
- ◆ Wednesday 13th December—EYFS Christmas Performance @ 9:30am in the School Hall

Our planned Inset Days for this academic year are 2nd January 2024 and 15th April 2024. One more date is still to be decided. For term dates please see the [Somerset Council website](#).

Message from our Headteacher

It has been a busy week in school with the children settling in to their routines and new topics. Lots of children have been sharing their learning with me and explaining what they have learnt. In PE, it is great to see so many of the children now in black shorts and white T-shirts - thank you for your support in this. Please try and label all PE kits and school uniform as we do accumulate a huge amount of lost property during the year and it makes it very easy for us to return a child's item of clothing if their name is clearly labelled.

On Monday at 3:05pm, we are holding an open classroom event where you are very welcome to come into school and have a look at your child's classroom. Class teachers will be around to have a chat so if you have not met them yet, please do come in and say hello. We have had many good suggestions and ideas about various things linked to school and we always welcome these. If there is anything you would like to suggest that may develop and improve current routines and practices please email them to the office email or have a word with a member of staff. Adam Summers, Kirsten Molloy and myself will be holding a couple of drop-in sessions on the mornings of the 12th/13th October for you to pop in for a chat too - more details to follow.

I will be having a Headteacher coffee morning at 9am on Tuesday 3rd October in the community room - please come along for a chat and meet other parents.

Sadly, we will be losing Mrs Omer from Owl Class after October half term; she has been a valuable member of staff and we wish her all the best for the future. We will be advertising for her replacement shortly and I will keep you informed as things progress.

Hopefully, the weather will improve a little for the weekend.

Nick

Flu Immunisations

You should have received an email earlier this week regarding the flu immunisations which will be taking place on Thursday 2nd November at the school. Please make sure that you complete the decision form via the link contained within the letter whether you would like your child to have the immunisation or not by Wednesday 1st November. Any questions or concerns please contact Sue Cobb in the School Office.

Curriculum Pages update



The screenshot shows the website page for curriculum overviews. The header features a colorful banner with a sun, a cloud with the school logo, and the text 'Welcome To Vallis First School'. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links: Home, Our School, Parents, Children, SEND, Safeguarding, Governors, Curriculum, Contact, and Gallery. The main content area is titled 'Our Approach To The Curriculum' and includes a paragraph about the school's approach to the National Curriculum. To the right of the text is a vertical list of subject buttons: Maths, English, Phonics, SciencE, and Computing. A 'Privacy - Terms' icon is visible in the bottom right corner.

We regularly update our website with the latest plans for the curriculum and what your child is learning each term so please do take a look at the pages to see the latest updates.

Eco Council



Are you in Year 3 or Year 4?

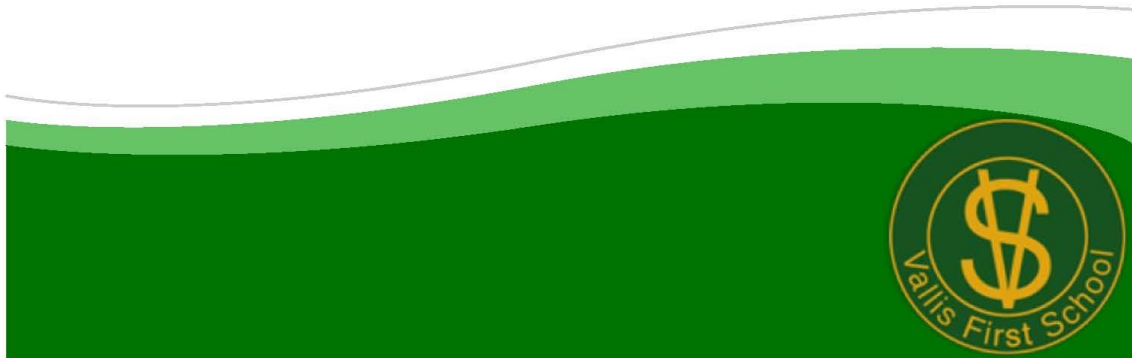
Do you care about the World?

Are you interested in wildlife, recycling and saving energy?

If so, why not join the Vallis Eco Council this year?

To join, Mrs Edwards would love to hear from you about why you would like to join the council, your ideas to make Vallis a greener, more eco-friendly school and what you are interested in. Please write a few sentences and hand in to Mrs Edwards.

If you are a parent who might be interested in getting involved please contact the office or pop in to Goldfinch Class.



Raincoat reminder

Please ensure that your child comes in to school with a waterproof coat regardless of the forecast as we do encourage the children to make the most of our outside spaces in all weathers. Thank you for your help with this.

VSA News

A reminder that next Friday (29th September) is a mufti day to support the VSA Fun Day planned for Friday 6th October. Children can wear their own clothes in exchange for donations of wine, chocolates and smellies for the tombola stall.

The VSA are looking for families with houses within 1 mile radius of Vallis School to host a Pumpkin on their doorstep for the Pumpkin Trail. Pumpkins provided!

Please email isherwoodhannah@gmail.com with your name, address & postcode.



Purple Elephant

Purple Elephant is a Frome based charity that provide family support services for families in Frome and surrounding villages. They now offer a range of services to support local families with children of all ages, from babies to teenagers, including of course, the fabulous Children's Festival. They currently run 5 services. Small Steps is their early years, early intervention service. Families with pre-school age children can access parenting support at weekly group sessions, including help with issues such as parenting skills, behaviour challenge, budgeting, and healthy eating, plus signposting. The Toy Library runs as a lending service where members can borrow toys and play resources. It also offers weekly stay and play sessions where families can meet and access family support, and their pre-school children can play together. The befriending service supports children aged between 5 and 12 years old who are finding life challenging. We match them with an experienced volunteer for weekly chat and games. Holiday Activity sessions, we run activities for the whole family to enjoy, with special events at Christmas. These are run in partnership with Fair Frome who provide a free lunch after the activity.

**THANKS TO THE SOMERSET COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION WE CAN NOW OFFER LIMITED
CONCESSIONARY PLACES* UNTIL END MARCH**

**WHERE
JOY
REIGNS**

**MOJO
MOVES**
COMEDY AEROBICS

**CHEESE & GRAIN
TUESDAY 18.45
RISE FROME
FRIDAY 09.30**

***SUGGESTED £4 PER CLASS INSTEAD OF £8
PLEASE EMAIL TO BOOK & PLEASE BRING
PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY WHEN ATTENDING**

**RECLAIM YOUR MOJO BACK FROM THE UNIVERSE!
MOJOMOVES.CO.UK**