

# VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

3rd November 2023



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## Dates for your Diary

### Next Week

- ◆ Thursday 2nd November— Parent/Teacher Meetings (early slots)
- ◆ Thursday 9th November— Parent/Teacher Meetings (early & later slots)

## Looking ahead

- ◆ Friday 10th November—Mufti Day for Christmas Bingo
- ◆ Friday 17th November—Key Stage 2 Disco @ 3:15pm to 4:30pm
- ◆ Friday 1st December—Christmas Family Bingo @6pm
- ◆ Monday 18th December—Flu Vaccination Walk In Clinic—Frome Community Hospital 10:00am to 14:00pm for children who missed or were unable to have a vaccination yesterday.

## Christmas Performances

- ◆ 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 TD Days for this academic year are 2nd January 2024, 15th April 2024 and Monday 2nd June 2024. For term dates please see the [Somerset Council website](#).

## Message from our Headteacher

I hope you all had a great half-term break and enjoyed some family time together. The children have settled well back into school and are enjoying starting their new topics. Please remember that if you'd like to know more about the curriculum, all the information is on our website.

We are looking forward to meeting you all next week at the parents meetings on Tuesday and Thursday. Hopefully, you have managed to use the new electronic booking system without any issues but if you are struggling to get it to work, please come into the office and Sue or Helen can help.

Parking and traffic movement outside of the school and in the school car park is continuing to be a problem and unfortunately, we have had some near misses over the last few months. We need to do everything we can to keep everyone safe. Class teachers will be talking to their classes about road safety and walking on pavements. We would encourage all of you to please walk on the pavements in and around the school rather than walking across the car park to try and reinforce to the children about safety on the roads. We are arranging a meeting with Somerset Council highways department to agree more measures to restrict traffic movement in and around the school and also the local traffic wardens regarding inconsiderate parking. Access to the car park of the school is also going to be restricted and I will update you on this in due course.

Thankfully, the worst of the stormy weather seems to have gone now but as a reminder, if we ever need to close the school, we will send a text to inform you of this as soon as a decision has been made. Announcements are also made on local radio and you can check school closures on the Somerset Council website.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Nick

## Autumn Parents' Meetings

Parents' Meetings will take place on Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th November after school. Thank you for the response to our new booking system and for those who have experienced the glitches being so understanding!

The sessions will take place in the classrooms for EYFS (Wren and Firecrest), in Buzzard and Eagle Classrooms for the KS2 classes (Eagle, Buzzard and Owl) and in Crane (the old Apollo classroom) for the three KS1 classes (Skylark, Robin and Goldfinch). Please enter the school through the Key Stage 2 stairway (up the stairs) entrance and wait outside the relevant class until called in by the teacher.

## RBL Poppy Appeal

Next week some of our Year 4 children will be bringing poppies, snap bands and wrist bands around the classes to raise money for the Royal British Legion ahead of Remembrance Day on Saturday 11th November. Children can bring in a donation in exchange for one item if they wish. Thank you for your support.

## School photo deadline

The deadline for ordering photos which will be delivered to the school in bulk is Monday 6th November at 3pm via the Fraser Portraits portal. Orders after this date will go direct to your house and incur a £15.00 postage fee.



With the support of



This ANTI-BULLYING WEEK we are holding

ODD SOCKS DAY on MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023



Come to school wearing your odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique!

If you're worried about bullying you can speak to ...  
...any of the adults in our school

#OddSocksDay  
#AntiBullyingWeek  
#MakeANoise



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ORGANISER



#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK



PARTNER



### Pumpkin Trail

Thank you to everyone who supported the pumpkin trail—we had a great evening and we hope you did too.

### Christmas Bingo Mufti Day will be

next Friday 10th November. All children can wear their own clothes in exchange for items for our Christmas Hamper, like boxes of chocolates, bottles of wine or non alcoholic drinks and bottles of smellies etc.



### Key Stage 2 Disco

On 17th November we will be holding a Disco from 3:15 to 4:30pm for our Year 3 & 4 children. Tickets will cost £3 and children should bring their party clothes in with them to change into at 3pm and they will then be taken to the hall. Parents should then pick up from the School Office entrance at 4:30pm. Pizza and drinks will be included in the price of the ticket. Tickets are available from the school office.

### Feel Good Fridays

This year the VSA will be running Feel Good Friday's instead of the class cake sales. Children are invited to wear their own clothes for a donation that will go into the class treat pot to buy extra toys and class treats. Each class has been designated a Friday as their Feel Good Friday as follows:

- 17th November—Owl Class
- 24th November—Skylark Class
- 1st December—Goldfinch Class
- 8th December—Buzzard Class
- 12th January-Eagle Class
- 19th January –Wren Class
- 26th January—Firecrest Class
- 2nd February— Robin Class

### Runtober Update

Congratulations to the Runtober team who in total ran 1,354 km in October and have raised £2,180! The page is still open in case anyone else would still like to donate—see the link on the Vallis School Association Facebook page. It's been such great fun, that the team are already planning on running again next year :).







To book please go to Eventbrite/fireworks - on there you

## CREATIVE MAKERS



Great news! Creative Makers is running a three-day art camp for children aged 5-10 during the Christmas holidays at Avanti park school. The sessions will be run by a qualified and experienced Art and Design teacher.

Over the four days, students will explore the work of various artists and create works that are inspired by them. They will also work in groups and use a range of materials to create paintings, prints, sculptures and large installations pieces. At the end of each day, all students will have creative work to take home. Each day is a fresh project, so you can attend one or all days and still have a unique experience.

All materials needed for the Art camp will be provided. The camp will run from 9am -3pm each day

Places are limited, it is recommend that you sign up as soon as possible at [creative-makers.co.uk](http://creative-makers.co.uk) The art camp is a great opportunity for your child to explore their creative side and fun during the holidays



LOVE ART



Dates: 19th, 21st December  
2nd, 3rd January

# Community Welcome Hub

**Frome Town Hall**  
Christchurch St West  
Frome BA11 1EB  
**01373 465 757**

|       | 9-10 | 10-11           | 11-12       | 12-1 | 1-2                 | 2-3        | 3-4         | 4-5 |
|-------|------|-----------------|-------------|------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----|
| Mon   |      | Citizens Advice |             |      |                     |            | Somerset CS |     |
| Tues  |      | Somerset CS     |             |      | Frome Welcome Hub   |            |             |     |
| Weds  |      |                 |             |      | Healthy Little Ones | ESOL Class |             |     |
| Thurs |      |                 | Welcome Hub |      | Prosper Frome       |            |             |     |

**Citizens Advice** Drop in for free, confidential and impartial advice. Citizens Advice Mendip offer advice in many different areas such as benefits, employment, housing and relationships.

**Somerset Customer Services** For everything covered by Somerset council, including council tax, planning permissions, social care, and housing/homelessness.

**Frome Welcome Hub** A space for all displaced people from all countries. Come and see us for practical support or cultural and social opportunities. On Thursdays Mendip Health Connectors provide free welfare checks.

**Healthy Little Ones** Join the East Mendip Health Visiting Team for Healthy Little Ones, a friendly and fun session to help you with health advice, meet others, weigh your baby and play! Free for all under 5s.

**ESOL Classes** Group and one-to-one classes to help with reading, writing and speaking English for speakers of other languages. You can access these classes through the Frome Welcome Hub.

**Prosper Frome** A friendly café for support and signposting about money matters, including credit, debt, benefits, scams and business advice. Drop in for advice or to listen to a themed discussion.