

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

2nd February 2024

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Dates for your Diary

Next week

- ◆ Tuesday 6th February—Safer Internet Day
- ◆ Friday 9th February—KS 1 Family Learning Event

Looking ahead

- ◆ **Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February—HALF TERM**
- ◆ **Monday 19th February—Back to School (Week 2 on the Lunch Menu)**
- ◆ Friday 23rd February—VSA Easter Raffle Mufti Day
- ◆ Wednesday 28th February—Headteacher's Afternoon Tea @2:15pm
- ◆ Thursday 14th March—Whole school Science Morning
- ◆ Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March—Spring term Parent/Teacher meetings

Our planned TD Days for the remainder of this academic year are Monday 15th April 2024 and Monday 3rd June 2024. For term dates please see the [Somerset Council website](#).

School Uniform

To order uniform please go to the Cosmic Monkey website, click on Schoolwear and scroll down to our Vallis logo. Our core uniform is a sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece and a book bag with our school logo but Cosmic Monkey are able to offer a wider selection of items in our school colours as well. You can get items delivered to your home or to the school, or collect from the Cosmic Monkey premises on the Frome Flyer estate.

Message from our Headteacher

On Monday morning, I went with seven of our pupils to the swimming baths for a swimming gala where we were competing against the other first schools in Frome. I was very proud of all the children who swam extremely well and gave their all for the team. Well done to Amelia, Mille, Alex, Wilf, Elody, Ivy and Genevieve.

On Tuesday, I spent the afternoon with our lovely Firecrest class and as well as then showing me how amazing they are with their phonics knowledge, they all had a go at something called a Drawing Club. This is a way of encouraging the children with their mark making, drawing, writing and numbers. We shared a story about a giant jam sandwich and some bees and they then had a go at drawing a bee and designing some superpowers for it; their drawings were amazing.

In a busy assembly last Friday, Owl class shared their amazing learning from the last few weeks. Their writing and engagement with their current topic and focus text is great; I have been really impressed with how the children are able to talk so confidently about the plot and characters. Well done to all the children in Owls.

Staff and parents have commented this week on the amount of dog mess that they encounter as they walk to and away from the school. It is obviously difficult to manage the site as it is a popular public thoroughfare, but we have contacted Frome Town Council and Somerset Council to see if we can have additional signage and perhaps a bin and will let you know the outcome. If you have any ideas for things we can put in place to remind dog users to pick up after their dogs please stop by or email the office.

Don't forget that from this newsletter we will be sending them out every second Friday so our next newsletter will be out on Friday 23rd February. In the meantime I hope you have a good break over half term (which is 12th—16th February) and have a great weekend.

Nick

ParentPay update

The team in the office are making good progress with preparing ParentPay for us to use. We are just in the process of completing the training and using a couple of parents who have kindly volunteered to be our guinea pigs to make sure that the system is looking and doing what we want it to! We plan to issue letters with personal activation codes to the primary contact for each child in the week after half term and will be able to start using the system straight away. Thanks for your patience this half term while the team did the necessary onboarding and data uploads.

KS1 Learning Event

Don't forget that it is the Key Stage 1 Family Learning event on Friday 9th February at 9am. We look forward to as many of you as possible joining us next week. Please could all KS1 children bring in small items of junk materials early next week.

School Choir

One of our lovely parents Jonathan and Mrs Krot who works in our EYFS team have put together a proposal to run a School Choir, with the aim to start after Half Term. We are currently working out the logistics of rehearsals and timings etc but in order to help us with the planning we would like to gauge interest from children in Years 2, 3 & 4. We would be really grateful if you could chat to your children and if they think they might be interested please email the office and we will add their name to the list.

Secondhand Uniform Sale

Our next sale is TODAY from 2:45pm in the KS2 Playground. You can buy secondhand items at reasonable prices or swap items for the next size up.

Local Community News

PANCAKE PARTY

Pancake tossing & races, with prizes
& eating of course!

TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY

TRINITY HALL

5-6.30pm

*Bring your family, friends
and a topping to share
(sweet or savoury),*



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1ST- 4TH MARCH 2024
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CREATIVE MAKERS



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



Over the sessions, 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

The art camp is a great opportunity for your child to explore their creative side and fun during the holidays



Dates:

14th, 15th, 16th February

LOVE
ART

