

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

23rd February 2024



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Dates for your Diary

Next week

- ◆ Wednesday 28th February—Headteacher's Afternoon Tea @2:15pm

Looking ahead

- ◆ Thursday 7th March –World Book Day
- ◆ Thursday 14th March—Whole school Science Morning
- ◆ Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March—Spring term Parent/Teacher meetings
- ◆ Thursday 28th March—Last Day of Term
- ◆ Friday 29th March—Sunday 14th April—EASTER HOLIDAYS
- ◆ Monday 15th April—INSET Day
- ◆ Tuesday 16th April—Back to School

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

In the last week of last half term, we started on a small art project with Cleo Brown who is working with the children using felt to represent the new class names. She worked with Robin and Skylark children who learnt some new and exciting art skills and techniques. Cleo will return soon to work with other children round the school.

It was lovely to see so many parents in school at the KS1 family learning morning on the last day of term. Some of the buildings created by the children and their grown-ups were amazing - I think we have some budding architects in our midst. Thank you to all the adults who were able to come in but please don't worry if you weren't able to on this occasion as there will be more opportunities in the future.

We are continuing to have some parking issues at school drop-off and pick-up. Please park responsibly and considerately if you do need to use your car and be aware of areas that are private parking areas in and around the school site as we have had a number of complaints from local residents about not being able to access their parking spaces. Many thanks for your help with this.

Next Wednesday (the 28th Feb), I am holding a session in the community room for anyone who would like to come along for a coffee and chat. Please feel free to pop down before end of school.

Let's hope we have some drier weather over the weekend.

Nick

World Book Day

Don't miss out on the excitement of World Book Day on Thursday, March 7th! This special day celebrates the magic of books, authors, and the joy of reading.

At Vallis this year, children can dress up as a word of their choice, sparking their creativity without needing to spend money on costumes. The words can be chosen from a favourite book or simply inspired by a wardrobe rummage, perhaps stripy, jungle, azure or joy! Please don't buy costumes.

We're also venturing out and about to celebrate WBD. KS1 are heading to Hunting Raven Bookshop where they will meet author Moesha Kellaway and witness the creation of a window display for her new book, "Slug Life." Meanwhile, KS2 will explore the wonders of Frome Library. Back at school, there'll be plenty of reading activities to enjoy.

Plus, why not participate in our at-home competitions? Take a photo of your child reading in an unusual place for "Wild Reads," or they can design a new cover for their favourite book. Send entries to the office by Friday 8th March for a chance to win a book voucher and be featured in our newsletter! Let's make this World Book Day unforgettable!

ParentPay update

We are in the final stages of testing and setting up the system, so letters will be coming out early next week giving you details of how to set up your individual parent/carer accounts. If you have an account already with a sibling at another school it is easy to add another child and the instructions will be on the activation letter. Obviously as this is a new process the ladies in the office will be happy to try and help. Once all the accounts are set up we will also be using the email communication function within the system to send out emails such as clubs letters, newsletters or other class related information that would currently come from Sue's mailbox.

The Year of the Recorder

Owl class took part in Jackdaws "Year of the Recorder" event in the week before half term and were fantastic. They learnt six recorder pieces in advance with their teachers and then enjoyed a workshop with professional musicians. They polished their performances before playing to the whole school in an assembly. They were superstars- well done Owl class!!!



EYFS Tadpoles

EYFS have some tadpoles arriving imminently—if anyone has a spare tank that they could live in please bring it to the office as early next week as you can.

VSA News

Easter Raffle

Thank you for all your wonderful contributions to the Easter Raffle today—we really do appreciate your support. The Raffle will be drawn at our Easter Bonnet parade on 28th March (more information in next week's newsletter), but we will be outside the school selling raffle tickets from week commencing 4th March on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

CREATIVE MAKERS



Great news! Creative Makers is running art camp for children aged 5-10 during the 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 by heading to 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: 2nd and 3rd April

