

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

22nd March 2024

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Dates for your Diary

Next week

- ◆ Tuesday 26th March - Osmington Bay Parent Information Session, Buzzard Classroom, 3pm
- ◆ Thursday 28th March—Last Day of Term—finish at 3pm as usual
- ◆ Friday 29th March—Sunday 14th April—EASTER HOLIDAYS

Looking ahead

- ◆ Monday 15th April—INSET Day
- ◆ Tuesday 16th April—Back to School
- ◆ Monday 22nd April—Wednesday 24th April - Year 4 Osmington Bay Residential trip
- ◆ Monday 22nd April—EYFS Heights & Weights by NHS
- ◆ Friday 26th April—Possible green gang day—subject to volunteers (see later in newsletter)

Advanced Notice (more information will follow next term)

- ◆ Monday 13th May—Class Photos
- ◆ Monday 20th May—KS2 trip to Roman Baths
- ◆ Monday 17th June—Sports Day
- ◆ Thursday 1st July— Frome Schools Transfer Day

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 our external provider's website—www.cosmicmonkey.co.uk.



Message from our Headteacher

We had a lot of excited children and parents in school last week as the first of our chicks hatched. Three eggs finally hatched and the children have enjoyed seeing how quickly they grow in these first few days.

Last Thursday morning was also very exciting as the children spent time around the school doing some amazing science. We mixed the children up so each group had children from every year group and I was so impressed at how the older children supported and worked with the younger ones - there was great teamwork everywhere. The awe and wonder from the children and questioning that was going on was just brilliant.

When we celebrated World Book Day, we held two competitions for the children related to books. The first was a 'Wild Read' where we asked for a picture of themselves reading a book in an unusual location and the second competition challenged them to redesign a front cover of a favourite book. Well done to all the children who entered; Mrs Powrie and I had a very difficult time in trying to choose winners. Congratulations to the following:

Wild Read Pictures: EYFS Noah from Wren, KS1 Logan from Skylark and KS2 Jude from Owl.

Book Cover Design: EYFS Lila from Firecrest, KS1 Eliza from Robin and KS2 Harlan from Owl.

With the warmer weather, the daffodils planted by Mrs Lucey on the grass in front of the Playground have started to flower and look lovely. Please can I ask you to try and discourage children from climbing on the wall until they have finished flowering to try and give the plants the best chance possible!

As this is the last newsletter before Easter, I hope you all have a great break and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 16th April.

Nick

The Science of Colour!

Last Thursday was a very exciting morning in school. The children worked as scientists in mixed-aged groups. The children worked with children from other classes to explore the science of 'colour'. The focus of the morning was to encourage the children to ask questions. All the staff were so impressed with how well the children worked together and how well they approached each practical activity. The children's questioning skills were fantastic!



Lunch bookings after Easter

Remember that all lunch bookings, even for children in EYFS and KS1 who have Universal Infant Free School Meals and children in KS2 who are entitled to Benefit Based Free School meals, must be booked using ParentPay now. Meals for week beginning 16th April (our first week back after the Easter Holidays) need to be booked by this Sunday evening so we can meet the CleverChef deadline for orders.

If you haven't activated your ParentPay account and need a copy of the letter please contact the office by 4pm today for a copy.

Plants needed please!

If any of you are keen gardeners and preparing your garden for the new season, please think of us if you are dividing up plants. We have a number of raised beds around the school and any donations will be very gratefully received!

Osmington Bay

Just a few reminders for all parents/carers of Year 4 children going on the Osmington Bay residential on 22nd April to 24th April:

- Any outstanding balance is due by the end of this term. Please use ParentPay to pay this.
- Please complete the medical form that was emailed home a couple of week's ago by this evening.
- Miss Harrington is holding a Parent Information session on Tuesday (26th March) in Buzzard classroom at 3pm to answer any questions you may have about the trip.

Green Gang Day

Carrying on the theme of getting things ready for Spring, if any parents/carers have some spare time on the morning of Friday 26th April and can come along to our Green Gang morning we would love to see you. There are some areas of the school grounds that need a bit of a general tidy up—we will provide tea, coffee and biscuits to keep the volunteers going!

VSA News

This Easter we say goodbye to Tracey who has been Chair of VSA for the past year, and has been an active member for 10 years. We would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication to raising so much money for the school. Thank you Tracey.

Straight after school on **Thursday 28th March** is the school **Easter Egg Trail**. Each class has made the most incredible giant eggs which you will find dotted around the local community using the maps on sale from the office (£3). Each egg has a letter on it which spells out an Easter phrase - work out what says and return to school where the Easter Bunny will be waiting to give your child a delicious treat! (Maps must be bought in advance so the bunny know how many treats to buy.)

Next term the VSA will be gearing up to the annual Summer Fair taking place on **Friday 28th June from 3pm** - save the date.



The poster is for the 'Easter Egg Trail' event. It features a central illustration of two large, decorated Easter eggs. The top egg is white with a purple dot and a yellow dot. The bottom egg is white with a green dot and a yellow dot. The background is green with various floral and leaf patterns. At the top, there is a circular logo for 'Vale First School' with a dollar sign inside. Below the eggs, the text 'EASTER EGG TRAIL' is written in large, bold, pink letters. To the left of the text is a purple circle with a white pound sign and the text 'PER MAP'. To the right is a purple circle with the text 'All families and friends welcome!'. At the bottom left, the date and time are listed: 'THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024 3 - 4.30PM'. At the bottom right, there is a section titled 'COME AND JOIN THE FUN!' with the text: 'Maps are on sale from the school office NOW! One map per child. Find the giant eggs located on the map, work out the Easter phrase and head back to school to collect your delicious prize!'.

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024 3 - 4.30PM

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!
Maps are on sale from the school office NOW! One map per child.
Find the giant eggs located on the map, work out the Easter phrase and head back to school to collect your delicious prize!

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



FAMILY HANGOUT EASTER PARTY

Free things to do!

- * Daemon * Doppelgänger workshop. Come * create your very own clay masterpiece to take home. 1 - 4pm
- * Chicks in Hats * Easter Loon Hunt
- * Crafts area
- * Table Football, board games, giant Jenga, old skool console games.
- * Pin the tail on the bunny!
- * Toys * small People play area
- * Paid activities
 - * Keyring * Badge making
 - * Lunch from "The Toastie Team"

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31ST
BOOK A FREE TICKET TO GUARANTEE ENTRY
23 BATH ST, FROME. 12PM TIL 5PM

TICKETS SKIDDLE.COM

Exploring Easter

Crafts, story, prayer, refreshments and more for all the family

Good Friday 29 March
10am at Holy Trinity Church