

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 18th March 2022

There has been a focus on reading and books in school recently with World Book Day and some assemblies I have taken. Last week I was really impressed with KS1, I read some extracts from well-known children's books and they had to try and guess which book they had come from. For our last two assemblies, it has been lovely to finally invite a visitor back into school – the children were lucky to be able to listen to Jenna Herman talk about her latest book and what it's like to be a book illustrator. Jenna, who is one of our lovely parents, has a new book out with Lucy Reynolds called 'We Are Family' and I am sure her great assemblies will inspire some of our children to become published illustrators in the future.

On Monday, I visited Victoria Park in Frome with Noah, Taya and Isabella from KS2. We met a representative from Frome Town Council and they planted an oak tree by the basketball court; this is part of a Frome wide project where a local tree expert, who has taken acorns from original Selwood oaks, is now replanting them around town. It was interesting to hear about the original Selwood Forest which covered a large area around here and how this gave its name to Selwood Academy.

I have seen some wonderful Viking related home learning over the last couple of weeks from children in KS2. Lots of children have made some fabulous Viking boat models, shields and other weapons used at the time, please take a look at the gallery on our website for pictures.

On Tuesday morning, we welcomed our Governors into school; it has been some time since many of them have been able to visit us during the school day and it was lovely for all the staff and children to meet them and for the Governors to talk to the children about their learning.

Our Star Powerful Learners this week were: Jack from Sun; Phoenix from Moon; Roman from Jupiter; Darcy from Saturn; Gracie from Neptune; Buddy from Apollo; Logan from Galaxy, Emily from Milky Way and Esme and Brook from Mars. Well done and keep using all these learning skills that you have used so effectively this week.

I hope you all enjoy the sunny weekend.

Nick Firkins

Headteacher

Reminders

- **Please DO NOT allow your children to bring in football cards, toys, lip balm or any other bits into school at any time.**

Red Cross Appeal

We have now raised an amazing £705 to give to the Red Cross emergency appeal for Ukraine.

Thank you to all the parents, carers, grandparents and children who donated to this cause.

Dates for your Diary

- **Wednesday 6th April – Whole School Parents' Evening – (early)**
- **Thursday 7th April – Whole School Parents' Evening – (late)**
- **Friday 8th April – last day before Easter Holidays – finishing at 3pm**
- **Monday 25th April – INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 26th April – Back to school**
- **Thursday 1st September 2022 – INSET DAY**
- **Friday 2nd September 2022 – INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 3rd January 2023 – INSET DAY**
- **Monday 17th April 2023 – INSET DAY**
- **Friday 26th May 2023 – INSET DAY**

Email change: Please note that our school related email addresses will be changing shortly. Please bear with us during this period as we set up new email addresses. We will be sending some information out during this transition by paper so that you don't miss any important notices. If you are having trouble contacting the school during this time by email, please either phone or come to the School Office. Thank you for your support.

Donations of toys and games: If you have any toys or games that are no longer used at home but in good working order, please could you consider donating them to our Before School Club? Any donations to the school office would be appreciated thank you.

Parent/Carer/Family Helpers: As Spring is arriving, we would like to arrange a day to tidy and refresh our school site. There will be lots of outside jobs to do including sweeping, painting, repairing etc. If you are able to spare some time please let the school office know of your availability – whether it is for an hour or a whole day 😊

KS1 Science Week

Apollo Class had great fun experimenting dropping water from a pipette onto coins to test the surface tension

