

VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 8th April 2022

The Easter holiday is upon us and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to a break and eating some chocolate. Since Christmas, COVID-19 has continued to have a big impact in schools across Somerset and nationally and I would like to thank you all for your understanding with the disruption this has caused at times. The children have shown so much resilience as most classes at one time or another have had different adults than they normally have, and the many lovely comments about the school, children and staff that I have received from visiting supply teachers has been a joy to hear. I would like to publicly say a big thank you to all the staff too as they have all supported each other so well and have been flexible in helping to cover various roles around the school. Although COVID is still around, let's hope its impact on schools and society as a whole is now starting to reduce.

I would like to reassure you that closing a class is the very last resort. We, along with all schools, have had periods of high staff absence and most of the time we cover this by redeploying people and using supply cover. Unfortunately, over the past few terms, there has been virtually no additional supply cover available and we have been very lucky to secure the staff we have had. We understand that closing classes causes disruption to the children's education and to families with childcare but sadly, on these rare occasions, there is no other option.

After Easter, we hope to start whole school assemblies again - this term I have been doing Key Stage ones and we have enjoyed exploring books, learning about Easter traditions and enjoying hearing about being a book illustrator. It has been lovely to see lots of you in school over the past few days at parents' meetings - these were our first face to face ones for over two years and I hope you found them informative and helpful.

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Daisy Wilson and wish her every happiness in her new venture.

Our Star Powerful Learners this week were: Martha from Sun; Scarlett and Yanika from Saturn; Isabel from Neptune; Harper-Mae from Apollo; Ruben from Galaxy, Jack from Milky Way and Ivor from Mars. Well done to all of you and keep up the good work.

I hope you all have a great Easter break and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 26th April.

Nick Firkins

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 25th April – INSET DAY
- Tuesday 26th April – Back to school
- Wednesday 4th May – Tuesday 10th May – Book Fair
- Monday 13th June – Sports Day
- Tuesday 14th June – Reserve Sports Day
- VSA Summer Fair – Saturday 18th June – Midday
- 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

REMINDERS

- **MONDAY 25TH APRIL IS AN INSET DAY.**
- Milky Way Class start swimming lessons on Wednesday 27th April.
- Hot school meals start on Week 1.
- Clubs begin w/c 26th April.
- Please email vallisvsa@gmail.com to order your Y4 child's leavers hoodie.

The winners of the VSA Easter Egg Competition are

Mabel from Milky Way Class

Emily from Saturn Class

Temperance from Sun Class

Well done to all the children that took part in the competition, the VSA are very grateful and wish you all a Happy Easter!

