



Vallis First School Newsletter

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Headteacher Mr Nick Firkins

Friday 20th January 2023

We always have some lovely art and design happening in Vallis and this week was no exception. Voyager class were looking at Monet and impressionist art and the children did some fantastic work - check out the [gallery](#) on our web site for some examples.

We are always looking at ways to develop our web site; we have recently been making a few changes to the curriculum pages and although not complete yet, there is a lot of new information on there for you to browse. The teachers all lead a subject in school and they have all been working very hard on the planning documents for this which detail the topics, skills and knowledge. Please take a look [here](#).

Many of you will have seen in the news the possibility of strike action by members of the NEU union. On 1st February 2023, 2nd, 15th & 16th March, the NEU will be encouraging its members to take industrial action that will affect schools and academies in Somerset. Whilst all efforts are being made to maintain essential services to children and young people, regrettably the industrial action may mean that we will not be open as usual and able to provide our usual level of services on that day. If your child's class is likely to be affected, I will endeavour to let you know as soon as possible.

In last weeks celebration assembly, Saturn Class shared some amazing learning from last term. I was so impressed with their engagement with the topic; I particularly liked the design learning they did and the models that they went on to make. The children were able to explain how axles work and demonstrated them on their models. Well done to all of you in Saturn class.

Just a reminder to please park legally and responsibly in and around the school site, particularly in the turning area at the top of Milk Street by the barrier. Thank you for your help with this.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Nick



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 1st February – SEND Coffee Morning – 9am in the Community Room

HALF TERM: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February

Tuesday 28th February – Headteacher's Afternoon Tea – 2.15pm in the Community Room



School Opening Times consultation

You may have heard in the press last year that the Government is looking at extending the school day so that children spend 32 hours in school per week. This would mean we would potentially need to extend our current day by an additional 25 minutes. The Government is still reviewing this proposal as part of a wider bill that will go to Parliament in the future, but we want to be able to have a plan in place in case the timescales between any bill being approved and when we have to implement changes to our school day being short. We have therefore put together this quick survey asking for your preferences on how we could change the school day to accommodate the extra 25 minutes. We want to stress that this is purely to help us plan in case we have to make any changes – it is not a definite change to our day and if we need to make changes with line with any new legislation we will give you as much notice as possible.

Please click on this link to complete the survey: [School Opening Times](#)

EYFS Family Learning Event

The EYFS staff and children would like to invite you into the school for a Family Learning Event on Wednesday 1st February from 9-10am to do some fun learning activities. If parents/carers, then grandparents or other relatives are more than welcome to come in your place.

See the poster sent with this newsletter for information on the KS1 learning event on Tuesday 7th February from 9-10:15am.

