



Vallis First School Newsletter

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Headteacher Mr Nick Firkins

Friday 17th March 2023

Last Friday, we welcomed lots of lovely grandparents into school to share some books with the children. Thanks to all who attended and helped make the morning so special for the children. It was lovely to see so many of you sharing stories with your grandchildren and others in the school and I know the children really enjoyed it. Reading for enjoyment and pleasure is so important and something we promote in school all the time. We are always looking for volunteers to come and read with the children so if you have a spare hour or so every week, please let us know as you would be very welcome.

The children were very excited on Tuesday when we had a science morning - see separate section in the newsletter. Walking round, I could see the children and staff were having a great time. Many thanks to Miss Plumridge for organising an excellent and enjoyable morning.

In last weeks celebration assembly, each class told us about some of the things they had done in class as part of the Frome Kindness week. We heard about some really nice activities that they had participated in and it was impressive to hear their ideas and suggestions for making the world a better place.

Parent meetings are approaching - this is a great opportunity to celebrate the progress your child has made this year and talk about next steps. If you haven't received confirmation of your time slot, please speak to your child's class teacher.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Nick



Science Week with a bang!

The children had a very exciting morning on Tuesday as we celebrated British Science Week.

We started with an assembly where we talked about how we all use science skills in everyday life - we are all Scientists! We were really pleased to welcome Connor and Logan's mum Amy, Ruben's mum Claire and Will's dad, James. They talked about how they use their science skills in their jobs covering everything from plants, teaching and building.

For the rest of the morning the children worked in mixed age groups to do experiments and science investigations in different areas of the school.

There was great excitement when a bottle of coke nearly hit the ceiling in the Key Stage two classes! Other activities involved exploring gravity and friction in the EYFS playground. Using the water and huge drainpipes was a favourite activity. In the Key Stage one classrooms, the children were set the challenge of finding a way to safely land a water balloon from a huge height. Their parachute designs were very impressive!

A few quotes from children....

"It was amazing!"

"It was so, so good."

"In Mr Davies class we made an explosion. It went so high I couldn't even see it!"

"I loved the explosions."

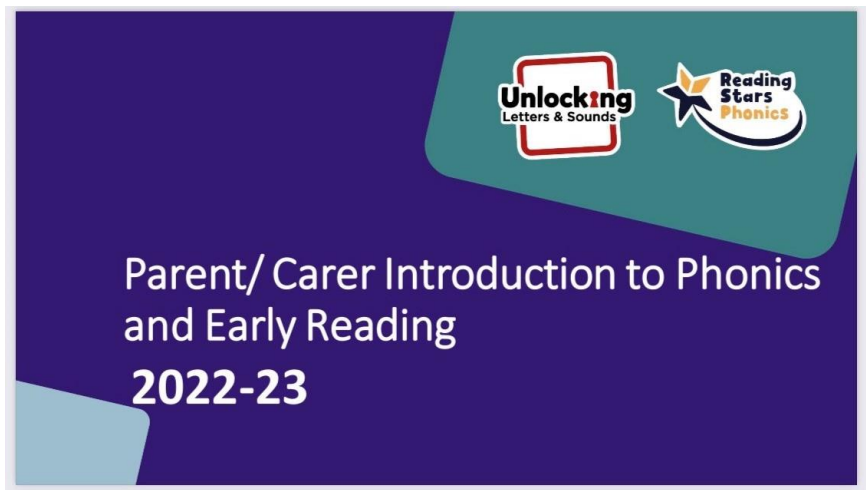
"The balloon didn't burst. Our design worked!"

For more photos of the morning take a look at the [gallery](#) on our website next week.



Key Stage 1 Phonics Presentation

Thank you to those parents/carers who attended our KS1 Phonics Presentation last week. The slide pack from the session is now available on our [website](#) for those who weren't able to attend.



**National
Autistic
Society**

**World Autism
Acceptance Week
27 March - 2 April 2023**

During the final week of term, we will be spending some time raising awareness of autism to coincide with World Autism Acceptance Week. We will be holding a whole school assembly, and one of our KS2 children will be talking to each of the KS2 classes with our SENCo, Mr Smith.

As part of the week, on Friday 31st March (the last day of term) we would like to invite all the children to come in dressed in bright clothing in exchange for a small donation to the National Autistic Society if possible.

Dates for your Diary

Looking Ahead:

- Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th March – Parents' Evenings
- Friday 31st March - Last day of Spring Term

REMINDERS

- Year 4 Residential Trip – please ensure we have the completed medical form and any outstanding payments for the Osmington Bay Trip by 24th March.