

V A L L E

Value All Learners Equally

N E W S

Issue: 30

Date: 6th October 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to share with you all an extract from a letter I received from the West Sussex Cabinet Member for Education and Schools. Mr. Griffiths wrote "I am writing to congratulate you and your school on your Key Stage 2 results this year which are in the top 25% of schools nationally. You have also continued to achieve well above the national average and maintained an improving trend over the last three years. I am delighted that all your hard work and commitment to raising standards has been so successful".

I am sure you will want to join me in congratulating both the staff and pupils for this success. I am very proud of them all.

Harvest Festival

As mentioned in our last newsletter, this year's Harvest Festival Assemblies will take place on Thursday 13th October. Year 1 and 2 will be holding two assemblies in the hall for parents/guardians to attend, the first commencing at 9.15 a.m. and the second at 2.15 p.m. We look forward to seeing many of you there and ask if you could attend as follows:-

9.15 a.m.	Mrs. Todd/Mrs. Cotton's Year 1s, Miss King and Mrs. Blaker's classes
2.15 p.m.	Mrs. Todd/Mrs. Cotton's Year 2s, Mrs. Granger and Mr. Pannell's classes

The Middle School children will be having their own separate assemblies during the day.

Once again we are supporting the Worthing Churches Homeless Project and would be most grateful to receive all Harvest donations on the morning of 13th October. Items they would particularly like to receive this year include tinned vegetables, sandwich spread, tinned meat, rice pudding, fruit juice, sweets, brown sauce, tomato puree, toilet rolls, razors, combs and deodorant.

Friends of the Vale News

Second Hand Uniform Sale

Don't forget that the Second Hand Uniform Sale takes place in the school hall tomorrow, 7th October, from 8.30 – 9.15 a.m. There will also be some second hand books on sale, so come along and pick up a bargain.

Thriller Night – Friday 11th November

Tickets go on sale tomorrow, Friday 7th October, at the Uniform Sale in the hall. After this tickets are available from the reception desk, or any Friends of the Vale (FOV) representative. Tickets are £5 each. Over 18s only.

Discos

Many thanks to all the parents and staff that helped at the discos last Friday. The children all had a great time and we raised a wonderful £1,100 for the school.

Come to the Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held from Thursday 13th to Wednesday 19th October. The selection of books this year is extensive, with some great new publications on offer to suit all ages. Parents are invited to preview and make purchases before and after school on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th, 8.15-8.45 a.m. and 3.00-3.45 p.m. as well as during the following week at the same times. The children will visit the fair during school time as well and are welcome to bring money to spend. The school is rewarded by being able to choose new resources depending on how much revenue we generate. So, please lend us your support!

Win a Prize!

Encourage your child to enter a competition to win one of five prizes of a £5 book token to spend at the fair. Submit either a drawing of your favourite book character, a short story or a book review to Mrs. Scott by Tuesday 11th October to be in with a chance of winning.

Shoebboxes for Romania (by Mrs. A. Smith)

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, we are once again supporting the Shoebboxes for Romania appeal and would be most grateful to receive either donations for a shoebox, wrapping paper or money towards the cost of sending them or even complete boxes.

The boxes have to be collected by half term, **Wednesday 19th October**, so that they can be delivered to the local depot. Thank you, in anticipation of your continued support in helping the children of Romania to have a lovely Christmas.

Early Morning Maths Club (by Miss McConnell)

We are looking for parents to help with the early morning Maths club that will be running this term for some children in years 5 and 6. The club will run Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8.30 until 9.00 a.m. Your children don't have to be in the club for you to volunteer and you don't need to be a Maths whizz either! The children will be learning maths facts and practising skills through games. The club will start on Tuesday 11th October.

If you are able to help out on one or two of these days and have been CRB checked through the school, it would be very much appreciated. Please see Miss McConnell or leave your name, contact details and the days you are able to help with the office.

Inter-House Cross Country

It was great to see the whole school participate in an inter-house cross country event last week. The weather was beautiful and all the children ran their socks off in their races. Congratulations to Emerald who were overall winners on the day. Our next inter-house cross country event will be held on Wednesday 9th November.

Child of Sussex Success (by Miss Wilson)

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate our Vale Girls' Cricket Team on yet another fantastic achievement. Not only did they win all 29 of their matches last year, ending the season by being crowned National Champions, last month this remarkable team were also nominated for a prestigious 'Child of Sussex' Award. On Friday 30th September Amy Little and Lauryn Foord (both in 7MT) were chosen to represent the Cricket Team at the awards ceremony at The Grand Hotel, Brighton. It was a fantastic evening, complete with posh frocks and even a red carpet. After much anticipation, our category was announced and to our delight the Girls' Cricket Team received 'The Child of Sussex Sports Team of the Year' award.

This is yet another fantastic achievement and one that is thoroughly deserved. Amy and Lauryn were great ambassadors for the school at the ceremony, both answering questions confidently when accepting their award in front of a very large audience! I would also like to extend my congratulations to the rest of the team. The school is very proud of you all!

Data Collection Sheet

Your child will be coming home today with a data collection sheet. We would ask you to check the information carefully, amend where appropriate and return to the school office as soon as possible to ensure that our records are up-to-date. Thank you.

Inconsiderate Parking (by governor Mrs. Ainsworth)

Further to the request in the last newsletter regarding parking considerably in the roads adjacent to the school, it is with great regret that the problems seem to be continuing. As a parent with children at the school, a parent governor at the school, but also the Parking Services Manager at Worthing Borough and Adur District Councils, I am ashamed that there are the same parents who do not take responsibility for their own actions in this. The Council's contractor, NSL Services, do patrol at the school when they can and, in fact, the Vale School get more coverage than any other school in Worthing. What parents must remember is that there is a finite number of staff employed to enforce parking regulations across the whole Borough, but 29 schools all with the same request for enforcement and it is simply not possible to be at the Vale School every day to try and address such issues. We all have our own part to play in this.

However, whilst NSL Services tries to increase patrols at the school in order to keep our children safe, may I please request that parents think twice before parking on the yellow lines and to be very careful when reversing and pulling away from kerbs. Please also consider the local residents and keep driveways clear at all times. The surrounding roads are covered by a school safety zone and all parents/carers are reminded to consider this when dropping off or collecting their children. Further information surrounding school enforcement can be obtained from the Parking Services Team at the Town Hall on 01903 239999.

Lost Property

We are finding lots of lovely new items of school uniform which sadly have not been named and therefore we do not know who to return them to. From now on all lost property will be kept in the year groups but please can we remind you to name all items of your child's uniform.

Fire Regulations

Please note that for any school events fire regulations require the school to complete a personal emergency evacuation plan for any person with a physical disability who may require assistance in the case of an emergency. If this applies to you or someone accompanying you to a school event please contact the school.

Home from Home Childcare

Bonnie Pilkington is an Ofsted registered childminder who provides a flexible home from home childcare service. For more information please either call Bonnie on 07891138711 or email her at childcareatbonshouse@hotmail.co.uk.

Sussex Bowls Youth Academy

Worthing Pavilion Bowling Club are looking for children from the age of 10 to join their club and learn to bowl. Worthing Pavilion run youth coaching sessions every Saturday between 10.00 a.m. and 12 noon. For full details of costs please see their website www.wpavilionbc.org.

Diary Dates

October 2011		
Fri 7 th Oct	8.30-9.15	FOV Second Hand Uniform Sale
Thurs 13 th Oct	9.15 a.m.	Year 1 Harvest Festival Assembly
Thurs 13 th Oct	2.15 p.m.	Year 2 Harvest Festival Assembly
Wed 19 th October	6.00 p.m.	EYFS Parents' Information Meeting
Thurs 20 th October		School closed for in-service day
Fri 21 st October		School closed for in-service day
November 2011		
Wed 9 th November		Inter-house Cross Country

Fri 11 th November	eve	FOV Thriller Night
February 2012		
Mon 20 th February		School closed for in-service day
June 2012		
Fri 1 st June		School closed for in-service day

SCHOOL TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2011

Friday 2nd September – Friday 16th December 2011

Half term 24th – 28th October 2011

SPRING TERM 2012

Tuesday 3rd January – Friday 30th March 2012

Half term 13th – 17th February 2012

SUMMER TERM 2012

Monday 16th April – Friday 20th July 2012

Half term 4th – 8th June 2012

AUTUMN TERM 2012

Tuesday 4th September – Friday 21st December 2012

Half term 29th October – 2nd November 2012

SPRING TERM 2013

Monday 7th January – Thursday 28th March 2013

Half term 18th – 22nd February 2013

SUMMER TERM 2013

Monday 15th April – Wednesday 24th July 2013

Half term 27th – 31st May 2013

