

VALE

Value All Learners Equally

NEWS

Issue: 16

Date: 6th January 2011

I would like to begin the first newsletter of 2011 by wishing you all a very Happy New Year. I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break and avoided the many bugs circulating.

Welcome and Goodbye

We are all delighted to welcome class teacher Mr. Adam Pannell to the school. Mr. Pannell has moved his family to the sunny south(!) from Grimsby and he takes over Mrs. Amanda Parkin's year 2 class.

We are also very happy to welcome back Mrs. Rekha Cotton who returned from maternity leave just before Christmas. Mrs. Cotton, together with Mrs. Todd, have taken over Mrs. Sandra Stezaker's year 2 class.

We were sad to say farewell to Mrs. Stezaker and Mrs. Parkin at Christmas and although they are both missed, we know they are enjoying their time with family and friends.

Middle School Admissions for September 2011

It has come to our attention that parents wishing to select The Vale First and Middle School for their child using the West Sussex online admissions form are unable to select our school. This is an error in the system which West Sussex is trying to rectify. However, if you would like to apply for a place at The Vale for your child in September, we have been assured by the Admissions Team, that if you submit a paper form, this will be accepted. On this form you can select The Vale as your preferred school.

Can I also ask parents at the school to let their friends who may be considering sending their child to the school know of this error.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Christmas Thanks

The staff have once again asked me to pass on their thanks to you all for your kindness and generosity at Christmas. It is very much appreciated.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the Friends of the Vale team for their tremendous hard work in arranging a fantastic Christmas Fayre and Santa's Grotto. Their report on the day follows.

Friends of the Vale News

Christmas Fayre

Having been postponed by the snow earlier in the month, we decided to provide our own at this year's Christmas fayre! Children were greeted on the playground with snow & festive music whilst awaiting the arrival of Santa and a special visitor from Paws Animal Sanctuary.

The hall was transformed into a fantastic Christmas market, which included your generous cake donations, Christmas hamper raffle, name the teddy, chocolate tombola and not forgetting Santa's grotto. In addition to this, as every class attended the fayre, they had an opportunity to win a prize in the free class raffle. This was a lovely surprise for the children on the day.

We had a huge amount of support from many parents on the day and leading up to this special event, as well as at the Christmas discos, so a huge thank you from all of the Friends of the Vale team.

Altogether the discos, raffle and Christmas fayre raised over £3,300 for the school, as well as some very special memories for all.

We haven't forgotten the pupils of years 5, 6 & 7 who missed out on their disco. We are hoping to reschedule this for February, further details to follow.

Think Pink!

The Friends of the Vale Team will be hosting a great evening out for **all you Pink Ladies** on Friday 28th January. Dust off your dancing shoes and come along to "Grease Night at the Vale School"! Learn to dance like the Pink Ladies, or simply come along and enjoy the evening and help raise money for the school and Cancer Research. There will be a bar and light snacks available. Over 18s only due to licensing restrictions. Bar opens at 7pm, dancing starts at 8pm.

Tickets are £5 and will be available from Reception from Monday 10th January and will also be sold in the school hall on Friday 14th January at the Second-hand School Uniform Sale. Proceeds from the raffle on the night will be donated to Cancer Research.

Please invite your friends along and support this exciting event.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

REMEMBER - Friday 14th January 8.45 – 9.45 am 2nd Hand Uniform Sale and an opportunity to bring in your unwanted Christmas Gifts - Coffee and Cake will be available. Please come along!

Car Boot Sale

Future Fundraising Event - Car Boot Sale. We are hoping to hold a car boot sale when the weather improves. Watch this space for dates and information.

Christmas Activities Thank You

I would like to say a very big well done to all the children involved in the following events:

Early Years Nativity at the Free Church

Years 1 and 2 "Countdown to Christmas" production

Year 7 Carol Service at the Church

Carol Singing at the Findon Valley Christmas Shopping Evening

Year 2 Choir at the Lancing College concert on 12th December 2010

Year 3 and 4 children's Christmas Market

"Star" Concert at the Assembly Hall on 19th December 2010

I managed to get to every event apart from one and am extremely proud of you all! I would also like to thank the staff for their dedication and hard work in supporting these special events.

Year 6 SATs Meeting

We will be holding an information evening regarding the Key Stage 2 SATs exams on Wednesday 12th January 2011 at 6.00 p.m. and strongly encourage all parents and guardians who have children in Year 6 to attend. At this meeting teachers will clarify the SATs procedure, how parents can support their children in revision and explain our target setting process. Mr. Michael Tidd, Year 7 Leader, will also be at the meeting to inform parents of the changes implemented in year 7 and the exciting curriculum being offered to the pupils. A letter will be sent home in due course with further information about this evening.

Printer Ink and Toner Cartridges

Please continue to send in any used printer ink and toner cartridges for recycling (except Epson). The school receives money for each cartridge received. The collection box has been moved but any donations can be handed in at the reception desk.

Year 6 Plea for Material

Year 6 teachers would be most grateful to receive any donations of unwanted material for activities being undertaken by the children during this half term. Please hand all contributions to the reception desk. Thank you.

Clubs

Attached to this newsletter is a list of all clubs available this half term.

Stars Gym Club

Stars Gym Club based at Henfield and Steyning Leisure Centres, is working towards its next club championships which will fundraise for more gymnastics equipment for activities in and around Sussex. Please check their website www.starsgymclub.co.uk for the date and if you are interested in your attending this gym club please check class times on the website. Classes are held at Steyning after school on Mondays and Thursdays and all day on Saturday for pre-school and school age children or after school on Wednesdays at Henfield. They offer beginners and elite for boys and girls and are shortly starting some free running classes. For further information on forthcoming events and classes please either visit the website or call Amanda Wadman, Head Coach, on 01903 800024.

Diary Dates

January 2011		
Wed 12 th Jan	6.00 p.m.	KS2 SATs meeting in hall for Yr 6 Parents/Guardians
Fri 14 th Jan	8.45-9.45	FOV 2 nd hand uniform sale in hall
Wed 19 th Jan	6.00 p.m.	Kingswood meeting in hall for present year 4 parents
Wed 26 th Jan	2.00 p.m. 5.30 p.m.	Read Write Inc. parents workshops in hall
Fri 28 th Jan	7.00 p.m.	FOV Grease Night
February 2011		
Mon 28 th Feb		INSET DAY (School closed for staff training)
March 2011		
1 st -4 th Mar		Arts Week
Tues 22 nd Mar		INSET DAY (School closed for staff training)
April 2011		
Fri 29 th April		Royal Wedding (school closed)
May 2011		
9 th -13 th May		Key Stage 2 SATs Tests for Year 6 pupils
June 2011		
13 th – 17 th June		Year 6 Residential Trip to Herstmonceux
20 th – 24 th June		Year 7 Residential Trip to France
Thurs 30 th June		INSET DAY (School closed for staff training)

SCHOOL TERM DATES

SPRING TERM 2011

Tuesday 4th January – Friday 8th April 2011
Half term 21st – 25th February 2011

SUMMER TERM 2011

Tuesday 26th April – Friday 22nd July 2011
Half term 30th May – 3rd June 2011

AUTUMN TERM 2011

Friday 2nd September – Friday 16th December 2011 (please note Friday 2nd September will be an in-service day)
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

Clubs – Spring Term 1st Half

Day	Club	Year groups	Location	Changing	Time	Run By	Cost
Monday	Karate	All	Hall	Hall	3:15- 4:15pm	Sama Karate Club	£3.50 p/session
	Football	6	Field	6JT	3:15-4:15pm	Mr Todd	None
	Art Studio	Invited pupils	3SH	N/A	3:15-4:45pm	Mrs Steele	None
Tuesday	Indoor Athletics	6 and 7	Hall	Boys -6JT Girls – 6NM	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Webb	None
	Brazilian Football	4-7	Field	6JT	3:15-4:15pm	Matt Wiltshire	TBC
	Cricket	6 girls	Hall/field	6JT	12:35-1:05pm	Mr Todd	None
Wednesday	Football	3 and 4	Field	3JV	3:15-4:15pm	Julie Shannon	None
	Radiant Child® Yoga	R-3	Hall	Hall	3:15-3:45pm	Bridgette Blackman	Free (this term only)
	Radiant Child® Yoga	4-7	Hall	Hall	4-4:45pm	Bridgette Blackman	Free (this term only)
Thursday	Athletics	4 and 5	Playground	6NM	3:15-4:15pm	Miss Marley	None
	Rugby	4-7	Field	4DN	3:15-4:15pm	Shoreham Rugby Club	TBC
	Gymnastics	3-7 (invited pupils only)	Hall	5MS	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Scott	None
Friday	Street Dance	6/7	Hall	Hall	12:35-1:05pm	Miss Kipping	None
	Dance	R-yr 3	Hall	Hall	3:15-4pm	Dani	£20 per half term
	Dance	3-7	Hall	Hall	4-4:45pm	Dani	£20 per half term
	Spanish	3-4	4/3AF	N/A	3:15-4:15pm	Tim Nicholls	TBC

NB: Clubs in bold also require a separate club letter to be completed and/or payment. Please see Mrs Allen in the office
Please fill in all letters/forms for each club regardless of whether your child has already attended last term.