

VALE

Value All Learners Equally

NEWS

Issue: 19

Date: 3rd March 2011

Welcome back to the second half of this Spring term. I hope you all enjoyed the short break.

In-service Dates

A reminder that the school is closed for in-service training on the following days during the rest of this academic year:

Tuesday 22nd March 2011

Thursday 30th June 2011

Farewell Mrs. Jezard

After 23 years working with and looking after our children at the Vale School, I am sad to report that Mrs. Pam Jezard is retiring at the end of this term. Pam has got involved with all aspects of school life throughout the years and will be greatly missed by everyone! If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift for Pam, please hand your donation to the ladies on reception or in the office.

Parents Consultation Evenings

As you will know from my letter before half term, there are two formal parent consultation evenings scheduled for Wednesday 9th March from 3.30 – 6.30 p.m. and Thursday 10th March from 5.00 – 7.30 p.m. The appointments will be planned on the basis that they will be a maximum of 10 minutes to allow you to discuss your child's progress to date with the teacher. Appointment booking forms for each class in years 1 to 7, as well as appointments with the SENCO, have been available in the hall daily between 8.25 and 9.00 a.m. this week for parents and guardians to select an appointment time with the class teacher. If you have not been able to come in during these times please telephone the school for details of remaining available times and to book appointments.

Bags2School Collection

A reminder that Friends of the Vale have organised a textile collection on Monday 7th March in order to raise funds for school laptops. As well as raising vitally needed funds for our school, Bag2school also help the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill.

We will be most grateful to receive donations of the following:

clothing
soft toys

shoes (please tie together)
curtains

handbags
bedding

hats
belts

Bag2School will be collecting from our school on Monday 7th March before 9a.m. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to the front gates on the right hand side (please don't tie your dog here while you go into school on collection day). All donations will be gratefully received so please sort through your cupboards and help us have a really good collection.

Vale School Council (by Mrs. Daisley)

What is School Council? - School Council is a forum in which issues can be raised and decisions can be made about things that affect our school community. We have representatives from all areas of the school, who attend regular meeting and feed back to their class mates and colleagues. We have a lot to do between meetings, but we really feel that our work makes a difference.

Who are we? - School Council is made up of representatives from each class from Year 1 to Year 7. These representatives stand for election at the start of the year and are voted for by their class mates. We were thrilled to welcome Year 1 and 2 representatives into the Council this year and we feel they are a valuable asset to the Council.

In addition to the children, there are also adult members. We have a member from the Senior Leadership Team, a teacher member, a teaching assistant member and a governor member. This allows us to share the views of our whole school community.

What do we do? - During our meetings we take "Minutes", which are then shared with all of the adults in the school and the class representatives. Representatives are then given time in their class to feed back the minutes and talk to the class.

Issues we discuss include:

- Health and safety issues everyone needs to be aware of;
- How we can improve the school environment and community.

During the Autumn term we had lots of discussion at our School Council meetings about the school House system. It was decided to change the names of the Houses; Amber (Yellow), Emerald (Green), Ruby (Red), Sapphire (Blue), We also agreed to include all year groups in the House system, not just pupils from years 3 to 7, and to reorganise how House points are collected to make it a fair system.

This term we made a decision for the school relating to the charities that the school supports. The school will now support four local charities; Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice, Link Romania Shoe Box Appeal, Worthing Churches Homeless Projects and Guide Dogs for the Blind. In addition pupils wanted to continue to support Red Nose Day, held on alternate years, plus collecting for natural disasters.

Red Nose Day – Friday 18th March

As you can see from the article above the pupils are keen to continue to support this very worthy cause so on Friday 18th March we will be joining schools up and down the country supporting Red Nose Day 2011. This year's theme is '***Do something funny for money'***. In exchange for a voluntary contribution of £1, we would like the children to come to school in their pyjamas or wearing something red! There will be a range of fundraising activities throughout the day on 18th March so if the children could bring in some small change they will be able to have fun and raise money for a good cause at the same time! Red noses are on sale for £1 each and can be obtained from the reception desk or Mrs. Jezard in the medical room.

Tesco Vouchers For Schools

Once again the annual Tesco Vouchers for Schools promotion has begun. This is a fantastic promotion and we have benefited greatly from it over the years. We would be most grateful if parents, family, friends and neighbours could collect as many vouchers as possible for the school.

We can also collect even more tokens by recycling ink jet cartridges (not Epsom). We will receive 10 vouchers per cartridge so please spread the word!

Collecting boxes will be placed in the school or vouchers can be handed in at the reception desk. Thank you very much for your support.

Man Causing Concern on Gallops Update

I refer to my letter dated 2nd February regarding an unknown male behaving in a strange manner on and around the Gallops. I have received an update from our Neighbourhood Schools Officer informing me that following an overwhelming response from parents, this man has been located and there have been no further issues since. Thank you to everyone who contacted the Police.

Parent Questionnaire Results

Thank you again to everyone who took the time to complete and return the parent questionnaire recently. The table below shows the results of all replies received. The results have been graded in accordance with Ofsted procedures. Over the next few months, the governing body, senior leadership team and staff will be looking carefully at the amber and red areas on the table, as well as considering the many valued comments included with the forms.

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total	Total Strongly Agree & Agree	Percent Strong Agr & Agree	Percent Strongly Agree
My Child Enjoys School	103	100	10	3	216	203	94%	48%
The School keeps my child safe	97	113	5	1	216	210	97%	45%
The school informs me about my child's progress	28	139	44	3	214	167	78%	13%
My child is making enough progress at school	44	149	15	2	210	193	92%	21%
The teaching is good at this school	54	144	9	1	208	198	95%	26%
The school help's me to support my child's learning	37	147	27	2	213	184	86%	17%
The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	30	151	24	2	207	181	87%	14%
The school provides a wide range of clubs after school	22	119	53	18	212	141	67%	10%
The school makes sure my child is well prepared for the future	30	130	27	1	188	160	85%	16%
The school meets my child's particular needs	48	139	20	1	208	187	90%	23%
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	34	139	16	1	190	173	91%	18%
The half termly behaviour certificates provide good feedback	63	122	18	6	209	185	89%	30%
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	25	133	28	4	190	158	83%	13%
The school is led and managed effectively	47	142	6	0	195	189	97%	24%
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	63	138	10	0	211	201	95%	30%
My child is proud of and committed to their school	81	120	9	0	210	201	96%	39%
The new procedure for starting school in the morning is effective	86	91	7	1	185	177	96%	46%

Sporting Success (by Mr. Todd)

On Valentine's Day, the year 6 girls cricket team went to St Bede's Prep School in Eastbourne for the under 13s finals of the indoor cricket. Despite losing their first game to a very strong Ratton side, the girls went on to beat Warden Park and Helenswood to finish an excellent 3rd in the county (considering they were playing two years up). Hopes remain high for a very successful outdoor season: Ella Bourne (Captain), Lauren Rippon, Skye Duplock, Tammy Davidson, Lauryn Foord, Phoebe Osborne (player of the tournament), Hannah Truss, Ellie Botting & Grace Piper.

Congratulations to Ella Bourne who has captained the under 11 West Sussex County cricket team and to Ellie Botting who is also in the team.

On Friday 18th February the unbeaten year 6 boys football team went to TAB to play the Orchards School in the Year 6 knockout cup final. The boys had swept all before them going into the match, knocking out several sides to reach this stage and also winning their league and the annual six-a-side. Orchards, the only other unbeaten team in the Worthing area, lay in wait. Despite losing 9-1 in the cup final to them in year 5, a new team spirit had been found for the year and after going a goal behind, the Vale fought back with a combination of great enthusiasm and skill. At half time, through goals from Jamie Ward and Myles Cooper, Vale were 2-1 up; and further second half strikes from Ben Colburn, Lewis Broughton and Myles again saw the Vale win the cup with a 5-1 victory for the first time in twenty years.

The team (apart from the above goal scorers) was made up from Callum Honess (gk), Scott Slaughter, Daniel Jenkins, Louis Gwennap and captain Oliver Dengate!

Indoor Athletics Report (by Mrs. Webb)

Many congratulations to our indoor athletics team. Pupils from year 5, 6 and 7 competed against 4 other schools yesterday at the Worthing Indoor Athletics Heats. All the pupils put 100% effort into their event and it paid off. We came 2nd out of 5 and will now progress to the Cup Final on 5th April at Worthing Leisure Centre. Pupils will be selected for this final and letters will follow over the next couple of weeks.

Early Years Train Ride (by Miss Leach)

Tickets ready, whistle blown, green signal and off we go!

On 2nd March all the Early Years children and LOTS of helpers travelled to Brighton and back on the train. The morning was packed with a multitude of activities and wonderful, new experiences for the children. A big hit was trying out the train simulator where we had rain, snow, wipers and even a horse on the track! We went into the station-master's office and met the fat controller, but not Thomas the Tank! All the children loved travelling on the train, getting their tickets checked and some even made an extra toilet stop at Hove! We also saw our posters on the wall which had been designed by the children earlier in the term.

A MASSIVE thank you to Mr. Churchill and his team of helpers, including the traffic police for all their hard work and organisation of the trip. They, along with the staff, were very impressed with the excellent behaviour of the children throughout the morning.

Many thanks to all the parents too who helped to keep the children safe and got a glimpse into the world of a teacher! We hope you enjoyed yourselves – the children certainly did!

Diary Dates

March 2011		
1 st -4 th Mar		Arts Week
Wed 9 th Mar	3.30-6.00	Parents Consultation Evening
Thurs 10 th Mar	5.00-7.30	Parents Consultation Evening
Fri 18 th Mar		Red Nose Day
Tues 22 nd Mar		INSET DAY (School closed for staff training)
April 2011		
Fri 29 th April		Royal Wedding (school closed)
May 2011		
Mon 2 nd May		Bank Holiday (school closed)
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 2nd 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	None
	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.