

VALE

Value All Learners Equally

NEWS

Issue: 21

Date: 31st March 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This will be the last newsletter for this term. I would like to thank all the staff and pupils for their hard work during this term. It has been very busy with lots of exciting events taking place. I know the children have enjoyed their learning across many different themes.

I hope you have an enjoyable Easter Break and look forward to welcoming you all back for the Summer Term.

Inter House Cross Country (by Mrs. Webb)

Even though the weather decided to take a turn for the worst yesterday, that didn't put The Vale pupils and staff off. Everyone was looking forward to the first inter house cross country event. A fantastic team of 20 year 7s turned up early to help me set out the course and to prepare for their roles as marshals and scorers.

At 9:30am pupils from Early Years, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 arrived on The Gallops, many wearing their house colours and all very excited about their race. Despite the cold, wintery weather, the runners were eager to start their race. It was a great sight to see everyone warming up with their class teacher before heading to the start line. The atmosphere was brilliant, the children all supported and cheered each other and it was great to see many TAs and Teachers running round with their classes.

The year 5, 6 and 7 pupils competed in their races during the afternoon. Again, everyone was very eager to take part despite the weather. The runners stayed out to support each other and all contributed to their house score.

It was a great day for everyone and we are looking forward to the next inter house cross country in September. A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day, it wouldn't be possible to run the event without your support.

The house results will be announced during Friday's assembly.

In-service Date

A reminder that the school is closed for in-service training on Thursday 30th June 2011. I have been asked by a few parents why the INSET days are arranged for different days in the week. There are a number of reasons why:

- To enable all part time staff to attend the relevant training
- To reduce the cost of paying part time staff to attend training on days they are not contracted to work.
- To enable us to work with other schools on a project
- The availability of visiting training staff.

I am very aware that some parents look to use INSET days around a weekend for a family break, and will always try to do this whenever possible. We will have the dates for next Year's INSET days in July and will inform you of these dates then.

Electrical Testing – Friday 8th April 2011

On Friday 8th April testing will begin on our electrical circuits which may affect our telephone system. If you need to contact the school and are unable to get through on the usual school number please call our school mobile number 07813558446.

Staffing News

Sandra Redhead, our IT manager, will be leaving us next week after 13 years working at The Vale. Sandra has served the school in many areas during her time here. These have included: Science Technician, Year 7 Residential Trip Co-ordinator, Security Manager and IT Manager. Sandra has spent more hours at school than she has at home over the years. Her contribution to the school has been much valued and she will be greatly missed. She is leaving as part of a restructuring process at the school, and we all wish her the very best for the future. Also Justine Barnes is leaving having worked across the school as a Teaching Assistant for the past 8 years. We wish her the very best.

As we informed you in an earlier newsletter, Pam Jezard is retiring and will also leave next week. During her 23 years at The Vale Pam has worked in the classrooms and the medical room, but she has also been involved with many other activities and events throughout the school. She has taken a leading role in the annual talent show, helped co-ordinate Red Nose Day activities and enjoyed dressing up in character to visit the children in their classes to name but a few. Pam too will be greatly missed and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

We send our congratulations and best wishes to Sam Stevens who is getting married next month and will return to us after Easter as Mrs. Blaker. We wish them both a wonderful wedding day and every happiness in their future married life.

Uniform

I would like to congratulate the children for the pride they take in wearing their uniforms and for their smart appearance when in school. From the start of the summer term the children can wear their summer uniform to school. Polo shirts can be worn but if the children wear a shirt and collar they are still expected to wear a tie. Thank you for your support in encouraging your child in this area.

Friends of the Vale News

Royal Wedding Celebrations

You will have received your invitation to join in our Royal Wedding celebrations, as Friends of the Vale will be hosting some fun activities on Thursday 28th April. The children are invited to come to school wearing red, white and blue on this day in return for a voluntary donation, all proceeds will be going towards the school laptop fund.

We will also be holding a **Cake Sale**, so please remember your delicious cake and cookie donations! These need to come to the hall first thing on the morning of the 28th. Please clearly label any containers that you wish to have returned with your child's name and class. No items containing nuts please.

Children will need to have some money for cakes, these will be sold at 30p each; as well as a named container & lid, to keep them fresh until the cakes arrive home.

There will also be a **Fun Hat Competition**, in keeping with the theme of the Royal Wedding or red, white and blue. The children may be as creative as they wish, with a prize for the best hat in each Year Group. This will be judged as each year group attends the cake sale throughout the day.

If any parents / carers are available to help on the day, please put your name on the list in the school reception area.

Car Boot Sale

We have now set a date for the car boot sale. This will take place on Sunday 15th May, at the relaxed time of 11am – 2pm. (With sellers from 10.00am). Cars £5, Vans £10. This is of course dependant on the weather!

Space is limited, so we ask that to ensure that you have a space on the day that you register your interest to the following email address FOVale@gmail.com.

Again, anyone available to help on the day please let us know at the email address above.

As you know, all our fundraising efforts this year are going towards providing more laptops for the school. We have raised nearly half of our target, but still have a long way to go – your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Tesco Vouchers For Schools

Please continue to collect as many Tesco 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 are in the reception area. Thank you very much for your support.

Year 3 & 4 Mini Production of Joseph

Tickets are going fast for next week's mini production of Joseph by our Years 3 and 4 children. Tickets have been restricted to two per child but are freely available from today. If you haven't already obtained your tickets please do so quickly before they are all gone! The children are all very excited about their show and are looking forward to the performances.

Durrington High School Parents Network

Parents/carers of children who will start at Durrington High School in September 2011 are invited to come along to this informal group. Share your concerns and worries about your child moving to high school with parents who have already experienced it. Some weeks will have specific topics covered, for example safety on the internet, but there will also be time for general discussion. The group will meet on the first Tuesday of each month (term time only) from 6.00-7.30 p.m. The next meeting will be on 5th April which will focus on Facebook/internet security. Pastoral Managers will be there as a guide. For further information please phone Mark Morley, Pastoral Manager at Durrington High School on 244957.

Clubs – Summer Term

At the end of this newsletter is a list of extra-curricula clubs that will be available for the children in the Summer term. Please can we remind you that the children need to re-apply for **all** clubs on offer next term and an application form is also attached to this newsletter. **Please note that all clubs will commence the second week back after the Easter break.**

Cheeky Shoe Company Footwear

You will be receiving a voucher from the newly opened Cheeky Shoe Company next to the BP Garage. Please keep the voucher as your loyalty card and when you purchase school shoes or school wear, the Cheeky Shoe Co. will donate 5% from the sale to Friends of the Vale. You will also receive a 10% voucher for your next purchase.

Borde Hill Garden – Haywards Heath

Easter Bunny Trail 3rd – 25th April. Find the Easter Bunny and get a chocolate egg reward.

The Allergy & Gluten Free Show

This show takes place from 6th-8th May at Olympia in London. This is the UK' largest event dedicated to allergies, skin conditions, eczema, migraines, coeliac disease, hay fever, asthma, food intolerance, chemical sensitivities and more. For unlimited free tickets visit www.allergyshow.co.uk/go/schools.

Easter Holiday Basketball Camp

The Sir Robert Woodard Academy in Lancing and Worthing Thunder are running an Easter Holiday Basketball Camp on 11th and 12th April from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon for pupils in years 5, 6, 7 and 8. The cost is £5 per session. For further information please contact Mr. Blower, Director of Sport on 01903 755894.

Diary Dates

March 2011		
Fri 18 th Mar		Red Nose Day
Tues 22 nd Mar		INSET DAY (School closed for staff training)
April 2011		
5 th -7 th April	2.15pm	Yr 3 & 4 Production
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
Wed 25 th May		Class, team and year 7 leavers photographs
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 – Summer Term 1st Half

Day	Club	Year groups	Location	Changing	Time	Run By	Cost
Mon	Karate	All	Hall	Hall	3:15- 4:15pm	Sama Karate Club	£3.50 p/session
	Cricket	5/6	Field	6JT	3:15-4:30pm	Mr Todd	None
	Art Studio	Invited pupils	3SH	N/A	3:15-4:45pm	Mrs Steele	None
	Netball	5	Playground	7DD	3:15-4:45pm	Mrs Daisley	None
Tues	Athletics	5,6 and 7	Field	Boys -6JT Girls – 6NM	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Webb	None
	Brazilian Football	4-7	Gallops	Hall	3:15-4:15pm	Matt Wiltshire	TBC
	Cricket	5/6	Field	6JT	12:30-1:30pm	Mr Todd	None
	Netball	3/4	Playground	3/4AF	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Finch	None
Wed	Football	4	Field	3JV	3:15-4:15pm	Julie Shannon	None
	Moon Valley Yoga	R-3	Hall	Hall	3:15-3:45pm	Bridgette Blackman	£12
	Moon Valley Yoga	4-7	Hall	Hall	4-4:45pm	Bridgette Blackman	£16
Thurs	Gymnastics	3-7 (invited pupils)	Hall	5MS	3:15-4:15pm	Mrs Scott	None
	Dance	R-yr 3	Hall	Hall	3:15-4pm	Dani	£20 per half term
Friday	Dance	3-7	Hall	Hall	4-4:45pm	Dani	£20 per half term
	Football	3	Field	3JV	3:15-4:15pm	Jody Cuthbert Graham Pinn	None
	Spanish	3-4	4/3AF	N/A	3:15-4:15pm	Tim Nicholls	TBC

NB: You need to complete a school club form for all clubs you wish your child to attend

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.

Club Medical Form
Vale First & Middle School

Your child will be participating in one or more clubs this year. He/she may also be selected to take part in tournaments and competitions throughout the year.

Please can you fill in the form below and sign to give permission for your child to take part in the clubs indicated on the confirmation form and to attend competitions. Please return to Mrs Allen in the office.

NB: you only need to fill in one form for the whole term, regardless of how many clubs your child is attending.

Name of child _____ Class _____

We/I give permission for our child to attend the clubs indicated on the confirmation form and take part in any competitions they are selected for throughout the year.

Home phone number _____

Emergency contact number, _____

Name of the contacts, _____

Relationship to child, _____

GP name, _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

Please delete as appropriate *

*My child does not suffer from any medical conditions or allergies.

*My child suffers from the following medical conditions or allergies;

*My child does not take any medication

*My child takes the following medication;

Signed _____ parent/guardian

Thank you for this information, it will be treated in confidence.

VALE FIRST & MIDDLE SCHOOL

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Dear Parent

1. Complete the specific reply slip for each club that you would like your child to attend. Return this to the school office with the relevant club payment and individual club forms
2. Complete the club column on this form with the club that you would like your child to attend on the relevant day.
3. Once the reply slip(s) and form has been received back in the school office we will complete the Place Confirmed or Waiting List column and return to you for reference.

Name of Child:

_____ Class: _____

Medical form attached: yes / no

Day	Club	Club form and money received (if applicable)	Place offered (office use only)	On the waiting list (office use only)
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				