

Headteacher:
David Pearce



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Friday 29 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always another busy week draws to a close. There have been some fantastic moments shared with our young people, from them engaging in a fishing trip and a farm trip, to playing a large part in recruiting new staff for next year through the student council.

Inclusion 2024 Disney football festival

On Tuesday we hosted Barnwell School and The Youth Sport Trust when they held an Inclusion 2024 Disney Football Festival. In PE lessons this year we have been



utilising the Disney Shooting Stars curriculum to encourage young female learners and youth SEN learners to participate in football.

It was a great success and our Year 8 and 9 students enjoyed playing the different games and interacting with young people from Knightsfield and Pinewood School.

Masonic Fishing Charity School Fishing Day

With the lifting of Covid restrictions it was great to see the return of the annual Masonic Fishing Charity School Fishing Day. Mr Walker and his team took Callum, Charlie, Alfie, Jay, Danny, Jack and Kwasi to Westmill Farm Fishing Lake and the boys had the opportunity to fly fish for some trout.



They had a very successful day and six out of the seven boys managed to catch a fish. Miss Heller was the lucky recipient of most of the trout. The boys demonstrated excellent communication skills with the caster that worked with them as well as showing great patience, perseverance and resilience.



Church Farm Trip

On Wednesday 27th April our Year 7 students spent a day out at the Farm. They fed lambs, explored how a working farm operated, picked vegetables and planted seeds. They all had a wonderful time and for once they weren't subject to rain or snow.



Performing Arts

Following on from the massive success of the Easter Extravaganza, the Mayor has invited the school to join the Ukrainian Charity Concert on **Friday 20th May**. The Mayor has asked that Orion performs his keyboard improvisation and all other learners involved with the Easter Extravaganza form a choir and perform a song in the concert.

Mr Dear, Mr Lanning and Mr Harris are working with the children in the upcoming lessons to practise.

Please save the date as we would love to see as many of The Valley School community supporting the Charity. Any questions please email Elliot.walker@thevalley.herts.sch.uk

Enterprise

Thank you all for your participation in the Easter Egg Raffle, the Enterprise team have managed to raise over £80 which they have already reinvested into their next project. They will be providing School Tuck to different year groups each day, every week starting from Tuesday 3rd May with the support of the Year 8 team.

Attached is the Tuck Shop price list.

The Year 10 Enterprise team will open the shop at break so children can purchase items with money they have brought in.

Monday- Year 7, Tuesday- Year 8, Wednesday- Year 9, Thursday-Year 10 and Friday- Year 11

Reporting and Parents' Evening Schedule

This year was the first time we trialled virtual parents evenings and on the whole, this was a great success. We went virtual because of Covid-19 in December 2020 and after great improvement in attendance to parents evening we decided to keep it virtual for the Year 8 and 10 evening, in March 2021, and again this was a very successful event.

Looking to the future and considering the cost of living, the time restraints on many of our families and the childcare needs that often accompany parents' evenings, we are considering keeping parents' evenings virtual and we would like your opinion on the matter.

It would be very helpful if you could take some time to complete the short survey at the link below by Friday, 7th May 2022.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSci1vl7z0b4o90NcctZ_tlr_LNDtKy52qitPy86JcbFWQ4ZTA/viewform?usp=pp_url

The rest of the reporting and parents' evening schedule for this year can be seen below.

Year	Autumn Term	Date	Spring Term	Date	Summer Term	Date
Year 7	Parents' Evening	2/12/21	Data Report	27/01/22	Full written report	13/05/22
Year 8	Data Report	26/11/21	Parents' Evening	17/03/22	Full written report	10/06/22
Year 9	Parents' Evening	2/12/21	Full written report	04/03/22	Data Report	24/06/22
					KS4 Information Evening	23/06/22
Year 10	Full written report	26/11/21	Parents' Evening	17/03/22	Data Report	10/06/22
Year 11	Parents' Evening	2/12/21	Full written report	25/03/22	Data Report	17/06/22

Recruitment

We work very hard to upskill our staff and provide many opportunities for their professional development. One of the knock-on effects of this however, is that they begin to have aspirations for bigger and better things, and quite rightly move on.

With The Valley School continuing to be popular for students and staff, we are fortunate to attract healthy fields for jobs advertised, and I am pleased to announce that we have appointed four new, extremely capable Learning Partners that will be joining us over the next couple of months.

Hirings

If you are a member of a club or society that are looking for a space to perform, practice or rehearse then please contact our Business Manager Paula Frost by calling (01438) 747274. We have a hall and a gym which we would like to hire out at £30 per hour each. The money accrued would be directed back in to the school to improve the learning experiences of our young people.

Wishing you a relaxing, safe and enjoyable long weekend. Please remember that we are welcoming students back on Tuesday next week.

Yours sincerely



David Pearce
Headteacher