

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Headteacher:
David Pearce



The Valley School
Broadhall Way
Stevenage
Herts SG2 9BN
Tel: 01438 747274
admin@thevalley.herts.sch.uk

Friday 6th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although the week has been shorter with the Bank Holiday Monday, we have continued to be industrious in our teaching and learning. The Year 11s are finishing off their external qualifications and are being supported in their preparations for transition from The Valley. It has been lovely to see them grow in maturity; taking responsibility for improving their work where they can, and engaging in activities such as work experience and travel training.

The Year 11 team are extremely proud of their year group's approach to their final weeks at the school.

The school site

Our poor old buildings are struggling to cope and a number of the patches that were put in place to keep us going are also beginning to fail.

We had a burst hot water pipe under The Pit which resulted in our Year 10s, 11s, 8s and various staff having to quickly rescue equipment before it ended up under water or floating across the playground.

A knock on effect from this is that our heating has also now failed and work is being undertaken to try to sort this out as soon as possible.

We know that the issues with the old build are a direct consequence of any investment being directed towards the new one, but as you are aware, the commencement of the new build is also experiencing considerable delays.

The delays are a consequence of the unstable global situation and the rise in cost and sourcing of materials. We have been made aware that the steel works that has been a refuge for so many Ukrainians in Mariupol, is where the steel framework for our new build was supposed to be manufactured.

We are still in talks with the planning department of the Local Authority and the Department for Education and they continue to reassure us that the new build will go ahead very shortly.



Teacher appointments

On Wednesday we successfully interviewed candidates for teaching positions for September. We are extremely pleased to be able to welcome Mrs Lindsey Ashley and Mrs Melanie Grundelinhg who will be joining The Valley at the beginning of the new academic year.

Tuck Shop

This is just a brief reminder that the Enterprise Group have begun the running of a School Tuck Shop to different year groups each day, every week starting from Tuesday 3rd May with the support of the Year 8 team.

The Year 10 Enterprise team 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

Performing Arts

Please keep the evening of 20th May free for the Ukrainian charity concert which is being held at the Nobel School auditorium. We have a number of our students performing and they would love your support.

We will explain how to access tickets in the very near future.

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Pearce', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David Pearce
Headteacher