

Headteacher:
David Pearce



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Friday 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been another busy week at The Valley School with trips, visits and a Parents' Evening for three of our Year Groups (7s, 9s and 11s).

Christmas Dinner (13th December)

We will be holding our annual Christmas Dinner on Tuesday 13th December. Students will not be charged for this meal which will be a traditional turkey roast or Quorn fillet with all the trimmings.



Christmas Jumper Day

This year we will be holding our Christmas Jumper day on Tuesday 13th December as part of our Christmas Dinner celebrations. We will not be asking for money donations as part of the Christmas Jumper day. However, if you would like to help us support the local 'Feed Up Warm Up' charity, you can send in a food item (packet or tinned only please) as we will be making food parcels to help support those in need.

Church Farm trip

Some Year 10 and 11 students had an amazing visit to Church Farm. We started the day by meeting the chickens and collecting eggs. We then had a tour of the farm and fed the animals. After a well-deserved lunch break we then took part in a horticulture activity before heading back to school.



Outdoor Learning

Some of our students in Year 7 had a great time whittling sticks to make Garden Gnomes in their Outdoor Learning lesson. Aiden and Jacob showed excellent skills and should be commended for their efforts.



Permissions to allow photos and videos to be used in exams

Many of our assessments enable students to submit video or photographic evidence as part of their work. In order to share this work with exam boards we need parental consent. We have added a consent option on Arbor and would be grateful if you could consent to us using video and photographs for this purpose. Any video or photographs of students shared with exam boards are shared securely and are only used for moderation purposes. If you have any questions around this consent please contact our Exams Officer Lindsay Wright.

Cinderella Pantomime Trip (Wednesday 14 December)

We are running a school trip to see the pantomime 'Cinderella' at the Gordon Craig Theatre, Stevenage, on the afternoon of Wednesday 14th December. For those students that have chosen to go, they will be driven to the theatre after lunch to see a matinee performance. Your child is welcome to bring a small appropriate snack or some sweets to eat in the interval. There will be nothing available to purchase at the theatre as this is not a public performance. Students should also have a water bottle with them and bring a coat for the walk to the theatre from the car park.

This will finish at approximately 4.00pm, therefore later than the usual end of the school day. As this is a school trip we have asked parents to support us by **collecting their children from The Leisure Park near the footbridge. We will walk the students from the Gordon Craig Theatre to you.**



We are able to bring a very limited number of students back to the school, but as we are using all our vehicles to do this, we will not have the capacity to drop them home. Thank you for your support with this.

End of term arrangements (Wednesday 21st December 2022)

Our last day of term is Wednesday 21st December.

The plan for the day will be as follows:

| Time | Activity |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 9:00 – 9:20 | Registration and Breakfast |
| 9:20 - 11:00 | Periods 1, 2 and 3 as normal |
| 11:00 – 11:20 | Break |
| 11:20 - 11:35 | Form time |
| 11:40 – 12:00 | Assembly in the theatre |
| 12:00 – 12:35 | Lunchtime |
| 12:35 – 12:40 | Form time |
| 12:40 – 12:50 | Departure |

The first day back will be Friday 6th January where taxis will pick up students and the school will be open at the normal time.

Student Absence

Please remember that if your child is absent, whether it be for illness, medical or any other reason, a message **MUST** be left on our absence line. This can be accessed by using the main school number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Thank you for your support with this.

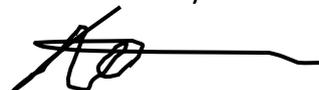
After School Clubs

The list of students expected to attend clubs next week is attached to this newsletter. If your child is on this list then it means that we have received your permission and that arrangements regarding transport home for your child have been agreed with you. If this is not the case you need to contact admin@thevalley.herts.sch.uk so we can address any anomalies well before the evening. Students will not be able to join a club after this list has been published, until the following week, as organising transport and supervision is too complex to do well with very short notice.

Thank you for your support with this.

Wishing you a relaxing, safe and very enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely



David Pearce
Headteacher