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The Valley Newsletter **Friday 16th June 2023**

The staff and students have very much been enjoying the lovely weather over the past few days whilst outside, but in our old building it has been a real challenge to stay cool. We have been encouraging our young people to be sensible with their clothing, stay hydrated and moderate how much they are running around.

The Year 7s have been out on a trip this week, experiencing first-hand what attending a Victorian School would have been like, our Year 11 DofE group have been on a mini expedition; walking and camping overnight, and we have welcomed our students who will be joining us in September in for a morning of activities.

Year 7 British Schools Museum Trip

Year 7 went to The British Schools Museum in Hitchin on Tuesday. We had an amazing time looking around the Victorian house and learning like the Victorians. The teachers were strict and we had to write on a slate!

We then had a Victorian PE lesson which trained us to be good soldiers!



Yes We Can - Stevenage Arts Festival

Monday 19 June, 7.00pm Gordon Craig Theatre

A group of students will be performing in this inclusive event at the Gordon Craig Theatre on Monday 19 June. The performance starts at 7.00pm and all students who are performing should arrive by 6.30pm. The concert is expected to finish at 8.00pm. Tickets are available from the Gordon Craig box office via the link below. Everyone is welcome to come along and watch.



<https://www.gordon-craig.co.uk/stevenage-festival-yes-we-can!-i3453>

FoVS at Stevenage Day, Sunday 11 June

A massive thank you to our FoVS who organised and manned a pitch at the Stevenage Day on Sunday 11 June from 12pm - 5.30pm. We appreciate their hard work in raising much needed funds for the school.



Heather would also like to say many thanks to the parents and students who came along to Stevenage Day to help out on the FoVS stall.

It was a long, hot day and great to get together, meeting other families. The team were excited to have made their first fundraising profit for the school of £202.80, this included some sales after the event.

We will look forward to other events where we can get together as families and continue to build our FoVS community whilst raising much needed funds for the school.

More Trampolining Success for Immy

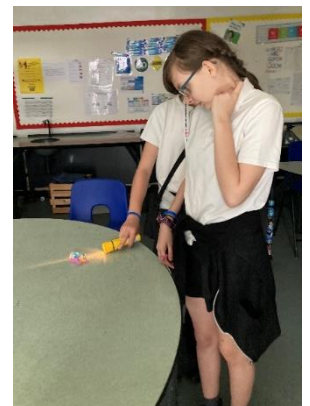
On Saturday 10th June, Immy participated in yet another trampolining competition with great success. Immy placed 3rd overall, qualifying her for the English Championships next month.

Everyone at The Valley School is very proud of Immy's achievements, well done!



Year 8 Science

This week Year 8 have been learning about light and shadows in science. Year 8 purple had their first lesson in the science lab on Thursday. They investigated light reflection and refraction and then used different light sources to create shadows. They had a fantastic time investigating!



Governor Feedback from Thomas Plater

The previous Stevenage Mayor, Cllr. Margaret Notley, and her Mayoress Cathy Bibby, both remarked to Mr Plater at the Stevenage Council AGM as to how impressed they were with the production of the Lion King that The Valley School put on. They thought it was an incredible performance.

Similarly, there was some really positive feedback from the Friends of Valley School Stall at Stevenage Day last weekend. Parents remarked on how welcoming they felt the school was, how their children were thriving, and one parent in particular was incredibly impressed with the Lexia work they were doing with their child, and noted that they were learning from the programme as well.

2023 Parent Governor

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the Governing Body of The Valley School as one of our Parent Governors.

In its strategic role, the Governing Body enjoys a close working relationship with the SLT in this warm and welcoming learning environment, and is involved in all aspects of school life.

If you are looking for a rewarding experience and are interested in finding out more about our friendly team and how you can support our school community, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact:

Liz Ellis

Chair of Governors

l.ellis@thevalley.herts.sch.uk

or: iona.varol@thevalley.herts.sch.uk



Year 7

Year 7 investigated different food for the rich and the poor during the Victorian times. We cooked gruel and baked lovely Victorian Sponge cakes!



The Year 11 Prom

This will be held on Thursday 22nd June at Stevenage Football Club. It will be an opportunity for students to dress up in formal wear, have a meal, and to enjoy music, speeches and celebrations of their time at The Valley School.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition

This week a few of the Year 11's completed their last challenge to achieve their Bronze Award.

They hiked, set up camp and cooked their meals on an open fire. Well done to those that took part, in extremely hot weather. They did not let the conditions stand in their way.



Year 10 Invitation to Year 11 Prom

We would like to invite the Year 10s to the Year 11 Prom at The Stevenage Football Club on Thursday **22nd June from 7:30pm – 9:30pm.**

They will be expected to adhere to the 'Smart' dress code but we do not want students to feel under pressure to buy new clothes. There will be no charge for this event.

If you are a Year 10 student please let us know if you can attend by emailing Miss Heller before Friday 9th June 2023.

We would love you to join us and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

chaleen.heller@thevalley.hertc.sch.uk



Immunisation

We have received information from the nursing team to say that the HPV Immunisation for Year 8 is due to take place on Wednesday 21st June 2023.

We have been told that consent has been given previously but any questions please call the team on 01727 732062.

After School Clubs Transport

Unfortunately we are struggling to recruit staff and volunteers to transport students' home after clubs. As a result, moving forward, we will only be able to cover the Stevenage, Letchworth & Hitchin area.

At the point in which we have more volunteers to provide lifts home, we will inform those living further afield so that they can access the Afterschool Clubs on offer.

If you are willing to car share with students that live local to you please let us know and we will do our best to coordinate this. Thank you for any support you can offer.

The list of students expected to attend clubs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after half term 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.

We wish you a safe, relaxing and enjoyable weekend

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Pearce'.

David Pearce