

Date: Friday 8th September 2023

The Valley Newsletter

We have really enjoyed welcoming back our Years 8 to 11, and extending an equally warm welcome to our new Year 7s. We had an amazing turn out at our Year 7 students and parents lunch on Tuesday during which the chicken pie received high praise. I would like to thank the kitchen team for all their support in making this event such a success.



New Build

I had a number of meetings during the summer holidays with the build team and I have been assured that completion for December is right on schedule.

Please see below the days in which the move will happen and how this dovetails with the Christmas holidays.

15	Mon	11-Dec	Wellbeing - LC				
	Tues	12-Dec		FGB 6:30pm			
	Wed	13-Dec					Christmas Dinner
	Thurs	14-Dec					
	Fri	15-Dec				Students last Day	
16	Mon	18-Dec				Move	
	Tues	19-Dec				Move	
	Wed	20-Dec				Move	
Christmas Holiday							
17	Thurs	4-Jan				Move	
	Fri	5-Jan				Move	
	Mon	8-Jan				Move	
	Tues	9-Jan					Students return normal time
	Wed	10-Jan					
	Thurs	11-Jan					Students In Year 7/8 reports to Form Tutors
	Fri	12-Jan					

New Staff

The beginning of term also provided us with the opportunity to welcome some new staff to The Valley team.

Ms Holop – Year 9 Teacher and Humanities Lead

Mr Chamberlin – Learning Partner



Events coming up before Half Term

Please look out for information being shared about the following activities.

- Year 9 trip to the Royal Gunpowder Mills on Wednesday 27th September.
- Year 10 and 11 Information Evening on Thursday 12th October.
- Year 7 parents' coffee morning on Tuesday 17th October.

School Uniform

Please can I ask parents to support us in ensuring skirts are an appropriate length for school. We have a number of children wearing skirts that compromise their decency when they walk up stairs, crouch down or bend over.

Thank you for your support with this.

Design and Technology

The Year 7's have made a great start to the DT lessons by learning how to use some of the tools safely. We will continue to focus on tool introduction and safe use as the weeks go on; building skills and confidence.



Cup Tower

Students in Ms Grundeligh's class explored how large a cup tower they could build whilst keeping it stable. They were very impressed with their results.

Instrumental Sessions

Thank you to all Year 7s who have returned their instrumental request forms. These sessions will start next week and run on Monday to Thursday on a rotational basis. If your child does not participate this half term, they will be included in the future.



If your child was having instrumental or vocal lessons last year these will automatically continue. Students in Year 10 and 11 who opt for Performing Arts will also be offered the opportunity to participate if they do not already do so.

Year 7 Arbor Account

As a new Year 7 parent you should have received an email to create an Arbor account. If you have contacted us with faults or error messages when creating your Arbor account, we are looking into this and will be in touch.

In the meantime, your child can have School Meals and the balance can be paid when you have access to Arbor.

Year 10 Enterprise

Year 10 started their Enterprise lessons this week. They will be trying different business ideas this year and turning their starting capital into profit..... hopefully! During part of the lesson they worked on their team building skills and tried to construct a tower using just balloons, newspaper and sellotape. They did a fantastic job and showed real resilience when it didn't go to plan at first. Have a look at some of the results.



After School Clubs

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

Yours sincerely


David Pearce