

---

**Date: Friday 22nd September 2023**

### **The Valley Newsletter**

Now that we are a few weeks into the term we are starting to see the students relax into everyday routines, learn their new timetables and re-establish old friendships and build new ones. It is particularly pleasing to see how well the new Year 7 students have integrated within the school. Many of them have started to take advantage of the many clubs we have on offer at lunch and break times. If your child hasn't yet taken advantage of these opportunities, please encourage them to do so.

### **Potential Sponsorship Opportunity**

Within the Physical Education Department we are always looking to improve on the provision we can offer our pupils. We are currently looking for a sponsor to help fund a brand new Football Kit so that we can provide more extra-curricular opportunities to the students of The Valley School.

We have the opportunity to play fixtures across Hertfordshire giving lots of exposure to the potential person, company who may choose to sponsor us.

If this is of interest to you, please contact Mr Russell through [callum.russell@thevalley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:callum.russell@thevalley.herts.sch.uk) to discuss in further detail.



### **Year 8 Lime reading Oliver Twist**

During their literacy lessons Year 8 Lime have been reading Oliver Twist. They have thoroughly enjoyed the story and immersed themselves in Dickens' world by acting out some of the main scenes.





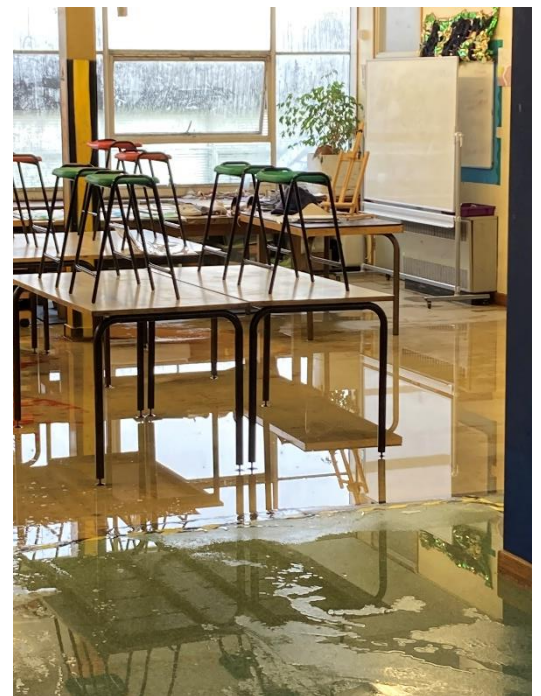
### **Why we need our new build**

On Thursday morning we came in to school to see our art room doubling up as a swimming pool!

Mr Quarterman (our Site Manager) spent hours clearing up the mess to make the room habitable for our young people. We are looking forward to moving in to our new build in January when these issues will become a thing of the past.

### **PE Kit (reminder from last week)**

As with many of our mainstream colleagues we have been finding it increasingly difficult to encourage our young people to change for P.E. since the Covid pandemic. We obviously don't want to stop students taking part in physical activities, but we also don't want to compromise on safety. For these reasons we have decided to allow students to attend school in P.E. kit on the days they have P.E.



The P.E. kit is as follows

Plain black shorts or tracksuit trousers.  
White polo shirt and black hoodless sweatshirt.



We are avoiding hooded tops to ensure the hoods aren't used as handles to pull each other backwards, and also to stop students putting up their hoods preventing them from being identified from a distance.

The table below shows when your child has P.E.

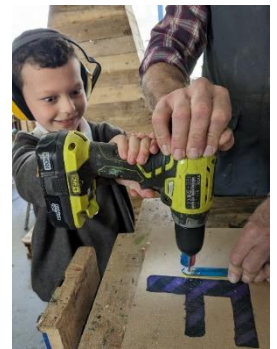
Please ensure they come in to school wearing it on the appropriate days.

PE Timetable		
11 Navy	Tuesday	Friday
11 Peach	Tuesday	Wednesday
11 Maroon	Tuesday	Thursday
10 Silver	Tuesday	Friday
10 Violet	Tuesday	Friday
10 Orange	Tuesday	Friday
9 Teal	Wednesday	Thursday
9 Purple	Monday	Wednesday
9 Bronze	Tuesday	Wednesday
8 Gold	Monday	Wednesday
8 Red	Monday	Tuesday
8 Lime	Wednesday	Thursday
7 Green	Monday	Thursday
7 Yellow	Monday	Thursday
7 Sky	Monday	Tuesday

## Design & Technology

The Year 7 students have been learning how to use various tools in their DT lessons. They displayed great enthusiasm and were excited about what equipment they would get their hands on next week.

Sky class were using sanders to make wooden letters.



### Flu Vaccination Reminder

Flu vaccinations will be taking place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Please return consent forms as soon as possible. Thank you.



VACCINATION

### Sleeping Beauty Pantomime Trip – Early Notification

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December we will be running a trip to The Gordon Craig Theatre, Stevenage to see their production of Sleeping Beauty. Unfortunately finish times of the show will be after taxi pick-up time (4:00pm) so students will need to be collected from the Leisure car park or school by parents/carers if they are going to attend.

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £10.00 per student. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals the amount will be £5:00. Please contact the office if you require any support in funding this trip. Payments can be made through Arbor.



Please look out for a letter which will be sent out in the next few days.

### Halloween Dress-Up Day

As part of our Duke of Edinburgh volunteering we are looking to support a local independent food bank with donations of canned and packet foods.

To help with the donation process we are organising a spooky dress up day on October 31<sup>st</sup> where students bring in a donation of food in support of the Foodshed. Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh students will collect and sort the items and then deliver them to the charity. Please note that any food items donated must be in date.



### Sounds of Intent

We are delighted that a number of last year's Year 11 students have been awarded a Sounds of Intent Certificate in Musical Development. This is a



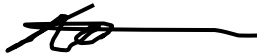
qualification designed for students with special needs which recognises the level they have achieved in practical music making. They were assessed in their instrumental sessions with Matthew Dear who is also an accredited assessor of the qualification. Huge congratulations to Alfie, Ankit, Lou, Chloe, Gwen, Lucas, Maxine and Ollie.

### **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](mailto: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