

Date: Friday 29th September 2023

The Valley Newsletter

We have had another busy week at The Valley with our Year 9 students enjoying a 'Gunpowder Mills' experience, the majority of our staff and students being inoculated against flu alongside the normal day to day teaching and learning at the school.

Year 7 Food Technology

Students were introduced to the Food Technology room and showed off skills in making egggy bread and washing up the equipment.



Science After School Club

This week in our after school science club the students had their first experience with the Bunsen burners.

We had lots of fun making popcorn on different scales and finished the sessions making 'slime'.

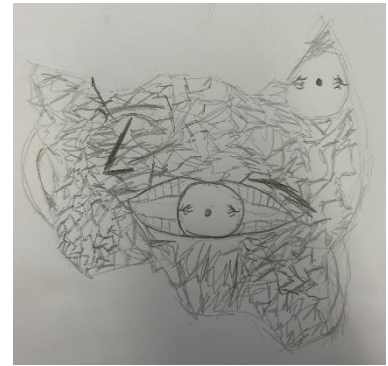
Enjoy the photos, the students absolutely loved it and made lots of mess!



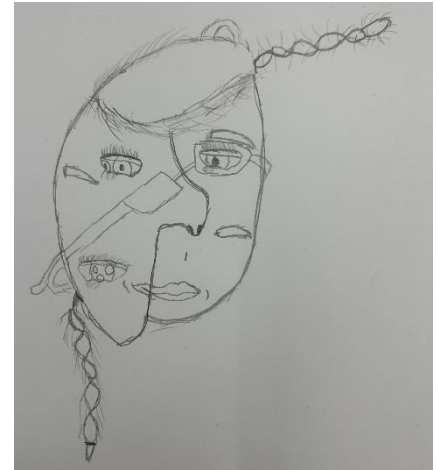
Art

Year 9 have been looking at Pablo Picasso, in particular his cubism period and students created portraits using this art style and shape.

There was lots of fun and laughter had whilst creating these and then students finished off by looking at each other's work and making positive comments about the work of their peers and when students read the comments it was a real confidence boost.



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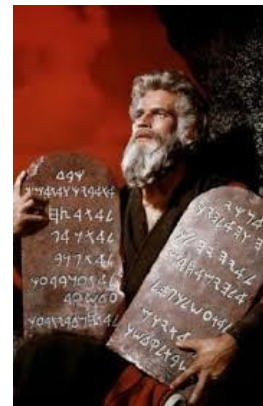


Year 9 RE

9 Purple were looking at the 10 Commandments in RE this week, and were asked to come up with a list of their own commandments, if they were God.

There were some great ideas that showed a genuine maturity amongst the students. Here are some of my favourites:

Be grateful for what you have - Riley
Never say nasty things to people - Andrew
You must be honest at all times - Aleks
Never let people live on the streets - Amy
Never gossip or be rude about anyone - Miah
Always be kind to people every day - Immy
Always eat lots of vegetables and protein - Blake
Be respectful to everyone - Katelyn
Stop hunting animals out of where they belong - Amy
Don't be on your phone 5 -7 hours a day - Blake



Year 11 Plumbing

Year 11 have made an amazing start to the year. They are now familiar with all the tools and their purpose. On Thursday during a class visit, they explained all



the tools and their uses to Mr Pearce. All the Plumbing students had their first attempt at soldering two pieces of copper tube together and all of them were successful. Well done all.

Happy Mid-Autumn Festival!

This year the Mid-Autumn Festival or Moon Festival is on Friday 29th September.

The date of the festival changes each year and depends on the phases of the moon. This year Jacob in Year 8 has decorated the sensory room for the occasion and has shared some activities with Key Stage 3 students so that they can join in with the celebration.



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 to discuss in further detail.



Prizes and Awards

On Thursday 16th November we will be holding our Prizes and Awards Afternoon to celebrate the achievements of our young people during the academic year of 2022-2023.

As our Year 7 students were not at the school last year, they will be out on a trip to the cinema and bowling to help develop relationships and social skills.

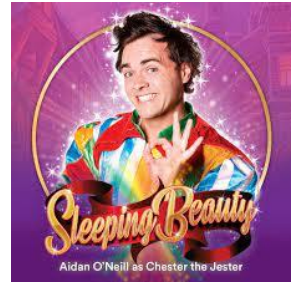
Please look out for the letters regarding both of these events as replies will be required.



Sleeping Beauty Pantomime Trip – Early Notification

On Wednesday 6th 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 31st 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.

Enterprise

The Year 10 Enterprise students are coming up with ideas for an assault course. Stanley, Sacha and Jayden began building theirs in the woods. This work has inspired the rest of Year 10 to look at different assault course ideas. We are very excited to see what the end result will be!



Friendship Assembly

On Friday we had an assembly all about friendship led by Ms Ashley and supported by Mrs Grundelingh. As part of the assembly the students put together a friendship bouquet.



Last weekend Immy was back in competition, performing in an Inter Regional Challenge Cup Final in Birmingham. Immy ended up finishing 4th overall, with just 0.1 between her and the young lady in 3rd and just 0.2 between her and the young lady in 2nd.

During our Year 10 Hospitality lesson the students showed how well they could use the kitchen equipment safely whilst preparing a meal.



We were fortunate enough to receive a donation of books from a very generous family this week. These will be a great addition to our new Library when we move over to the new building. If you have any books that you no longer use, we are gratefully welcoming any further donations!



Menu choices

There have been a few adjustments to the menu in recognition of student preferences. The amended menu is attached.

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