

# The Valley Newsletter

## 15th December 2023

### Headteacher's Christmas Message

September seems like a distant memory. It has been a long and busy Autumn Term. We are all looking forward to Christmas and our whole staff team would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

This term has been packed with activities, visitors into school, educational visits outside of school and of course many trips and visits. This has all been in addition to our staff and children working extremely hard to cover normal lessons ensuring our children all fulfil their potential, with the added complication of preparing to move a whole school!



Our school continues to grow with additional children starting all of the time which is a wonderful compliment and testimony to the team here.

The highlights for me this year were the amazing Christmas Show where over 150 people attended to watch fantastic acting and singing, and the Prizes and Awards afternoon. It was great to see the confidence in our children and the smiles on their faces. Again, these events enrich the curriculum and allow education to take place both inside and outside of the classroom.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all well at this special time of the year and hope 2024 brings you more amazing experiences in our brand new building.

### Work for the four move days

#### Five Ways to Wellbeing

We recognise that this has been a very stressful term. We have not only continued with our usual learning, but we have also had to prepare for Christmas and negotiate everything that moving to a new school entails. It is therefore really important that we look after our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others.



Attached are two documents which will help you explore different ways in which you can do this. They both contain the same information but one has more pictures than the other.

Using these documents, explore what you can do to improve your wellbeing.

Evidence this with photos, pictures or anything else that you can think of.

We are looking forward to you sharing your wellbeing experiences with us in the New Year.

Below is a link which provides even more information about wellbeing.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/workplace/mental-health-at-work/five-ways-to-wellbeing/>

### **School Lunches from January**

Cypad Meal Selection is being introduced into school for all lunch meal ordering from 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Ordering will be done through a SchoolGateway account – details on how to set this up has been sent to you today.

### **Students' first day back in January**

**Students will return on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for a 9:00am start.**

Taxis will pick up students at the normal time.

Parents who would normally drop their children off at the Football Academy Car Park; in January please park at the bottom car park of the old site.



Staff will be there to meet the students. This will allow you to miss the taxi queues.

Students who walk should wait at the new pedestrian gate, which is a couple of metres to the right of the old one. Again staff will be there to meet them.



### Year 10 Enterprise Event

Over the Autumn term the Year 10 Enterprise team have been meticulously planning and resourcing their inaugural school event. Throughout the term the students have worked on making and selling paracord bracelets, survival kits and s'mores in the woods which were very successful, seeing the team break even in their first two weeks of sales. The final step of their journey saw them design and build an assault course in the gym for the whole school to take part in. It was an extremely successful day in which the whole team showed exceptional leadership qualities.

There was a great atmosphere throughout the day and all of the Year 10 students who contributed worked incredibly hard.

Stand out performances of the day for their mature, caring attitude were Stanley and Sacha, who went above and beyond to help the many participants. Well done to the whole team!



### Moving a school

All the staff and students have worked extremely hard over the past week, packing boxes, labelling furniture and disposing of rubbish in preparation for the move to the new school. Nearly a thousand crates will be packed by the time that the move is complete.



### **Festive Snacks**

7 Sky enjoyed a festive snack time today. They sat beautifully and showed how to share food and used lovely manners when asking for their drinks.



### **After School Clubs**

These will continue to be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. They will start up again from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January. More details will follow in the first newsletter of the New Year.

