

The Valley Newsletter

26th April 2024

It is that time of year where I am hosting daily visits to the school by parents of Year 5 students. Every one of them has been impressed by the quality of what they are seeing, from the quality of learning and teaching, to the behaviour, work ethic and politeness of your children. I just want to take this opportunity to say that they are an absolute credit to you, and I am sure you are extremely proud of them.

Visitors

Not only have we been touring new, potential students and their families, but we have also had a variety of other visitors this week. We have hosted staff from another local school, who have been advised to visit us to observe best practice, and we have welcomed six PGCE students over two days, providing them with valuable in-school experience as part of their teacher training course.



Ark Farm visit 1st May 2024

On Wednesday 1st May, Ark Farm will be coming into school for a full day visit. They will be bringing along a range of different animals and across the day all our students will have the opportunity to spend time with them, learning about how to take care of the animals and have the opportunity to pet the animals. It should be a fantastic day and we know lots of students are already looking forward to it!



Year 11 Transition Evening

On Thursday 25th April we held a Year 11 information evening for parents and carers. The evening explained the transition programme, preparing students for life after The Valley School.

If you wished to have been there, but were unable to attend, please contact Ms Heller or Mrs Wells for further information.

Year 11 Students Leaving Arrangements

Our Year 11 students leave us on Friday 7th June 2023 although transport will run until Friday 14th June.

The students and staff will plan a number of trips and visits in the first few days after half-term, in celebration of their time at the school.



All of the Year 11 students will be provided with a sign off sheet, which when complete will allow them to leave school. Every member of staff that teaches a Year 11 student will identify the work that needs

to be completed for them to finish their course. The teachers will sign these when the work is completed to an appropriate standard.

When all the teachers have signed the sheets off, Mrs Wells will check and counter-sign them, allowing the student to finish their education at The Valley School.

The dates between Monday 10th June and Friday 14th June will be used to mop up any incomplete work and support students until they are done.

If you have any questions about the Year 11 leavers' dates, then please contact us to seek clarification.

Year 11 Prom (Year 10 students invited)

The Year 11 Prom will be held on Thursday 20th June at Stevenage Football Club. This will be an opportunity for students to dress up in formal wear, have a meal, music, speeches and celebrations of their time at The Valley School.

The event will begin from **7pm** and will finish at **10:00pm** for Year 11 students.

We request our students attend Prom in smart clothes, no jeans or trainers. Garden House Hospice in Stevenage town are running a pre-loved prom clothing event from now until mid-June to support families with the cost of living crisis.

Year 10s at Prom

As part of the transition to Year 11, the Year 11 students would like to invite the Year 10 students to celebrate their Prom with them. The event for the Year 10s will also begin at 7:00pm but will finish half an hour earlier at 9:30pm.

A separate letter confirming attendance has also been sent out this week.

Measuring in Year 7

Year 7 used various equipment to measure distances and volumes around school. We enjoyed measuring the go kart track using a trundle wheel.

Year 9 Poems

Purple class have been writing poems to celebrate Earth Day on 22nd April. Here is some of their work, written by Andrew, Rufus and Dylan.



My Earth Day poem

**Oh my oh my
The earth is crumbling by the minute
All the animals are dying
Because of us
From all the plastic yokes
It's slowly killing all the sea life**



Save the Planet

Earth Day by Rufus

Do anything but don't use plastic
Because you're killing the animals
You are making the beaches very dirty
Only use paper, cardboard and reusable plastics
Save all the animals



Andrew

*It makes me sad
Seeing what we do
To our beautiful planet.*



*The plastics in the
Sea sealife is being
Destroyed.*



Year 7 trip To Church Farm

Year 7's topic of 'Farm to Fork' was completed with a lovely trip to Church Farm this week! Students enjoyed the taste of life on a working farm and participated in activities involving the daily upkeep and duties of a farmer in Hertfordshire.

Students enjoyed feeding the animals and collected eggs from the chicken coops. After lunch, we planted some seeds in the poly tunnels. This was a great experience for all!



School Clubs – Please note there will be no Art Club next Thursday due to Y10 Parents evening.

The list of students expected to attend clubs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be sent as a separate email 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.